ROBINSON CRUSOE

DANIEL DEFOE

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CRUSOE

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Thus I lived mighty comfortably . . .

[*see page 76*

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ROBINSON CRUSOE

By

DANIEL DEFOE

WITH FIVE COLOUR PLATES BY
JAS E. M'CONNELL

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THE LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF ROBINSON CRUSOE

CHAPTER I

ROBINSON'S DEPARTURE FROM HOME

I WAS born in the year 1632, in the city of York, of a good family, though not of that country, my father being a foreigner of Bremen, who settled first at Hull. He got a good estate by merchandise, and, leaving off his trade, lived afterwards at York; from whence he had married my mother, whose relations were named *Robinson*, a very good family name in that country, and from whom I was called *Robinson Kreutznaer;* but, by the usual corruption of words in England, we are now called, nay, we call ourselves, and write our name, *Crusoe;* and so my companions always called me.

I had two elder brothers, one of whom was lieutenant-colonel to an English regiment of foot in Flanders, and was killed at the battle of Dunkirk. What became of my second brother I never knew, any more than my father and mother knew what became of me.

My father had given me a competent education and designed me for the law; but I would be satisfied with nothing but going to sea; and my inclination to this led me so strongly against the will of my father, and the entreaties of my mother, that there seemed to be something fatal in that propensity, tending directly to the life of misery which was to befall me.

My father gave me excellent counsel against what he foresaw was my design. Calling one morning into his chamber, where he was confined by the gout, he asked me what reasons I had for leaving my native country; where

I had a prospect of raising my fortune, by application and industry, to a life of ease. He told me it was only men of desperate fortunes who went abroad upon adventures; that these things were all either too far above or below me; and that mine was the middle state, which he had found, by long experience, was the state most suited to human happiness, not exposed to the miseries and hardships of the mechanic part of mankind, and not embarrassed by the pride and envy of the upper part of mankind.

He pressed me earnestly, and in the most affectionate manner, not to precipitate myself into miseries, which nature, and the station of life I was born in, seemed to have provided against—that he would do well for me, and endeavour to enter me fairly into the station of life which he had been just recommending to me if I would stay and settle at home as he directed.

I was sincerely afflicted by his discourse and resolved to settle at home according to my father's desire. But, alas! a few days wore it all off; and, to prevent any of my father's further importunities, I resolved to run quite away from him. However, I took my mother at a time when I thought her a little pleasanter than ordinary, and told her that my thoughts were so entirely bent upon seeing the world, that I should never settle to anything, but if she would speak to my father to let me go one voyage abroad I would go no more.

My mother told me she knew it would be to no purpose to speak to my father upon any such subject, that, for her part, she would not have so much hand in my destruction—and I should never have it to say, that my mother was willing when my father was not.

It was not till almost a year after this that I broke loose, and one of my companions being going by sea to London, in his father's ship, and prompting me to go with him, I consulted neither father nor mother any more, leaving them to hear of it as they might, and in an ill hour, on the 1st of September, 1651, I went on board a ship bound for London. Never any young adventurer's misfortunes began sooner or continued longer, than mine. The ship was no sooner got out of the Humber, than the wind began to blow, and the sea to rise in a most frightful manner; and as I had never been at sea before, I was most inexpressibly sick in body, and terrified in mind.

I began now seriously to reflect upon what I had done, and my conscience reproached me with the contempt of advice, and the breach of my duty to my father.

All this while the storm increased, and the sea went very high. I expected every wave would have swallowed us up, and that every time the ship fell in the trough or hollow of the sea, we should never rise more. In this agony of mind, I made many resolutions, that if it would please God to spare my life in this one voyage, I would go directly home to my father, and never set foot upon a ship again while I lived.

These wise and sober thoughts continued until the next day, when the wind was abated, and the sea calmer, and I began to be a little inured to it. Towards night the weather cleared up, the wind was quite over, and a charming fine evening followed; the sun went down perfectly clear, and rose so the next morning; and having little or no wind, and a smooth sea, the sight was the most delightful that ever I saw.

I had slept well in the night, and was now no more sea-sick, but very cheerful—looking with wonder upon the sea, that was so rough and terrible the day before, and could be so calm and so pleasant in so little a time after: and now, lest my good resolutions should continue, my companion, who had indeed enticed me away, comes to me. "Well, Bob," says he, clapping me upon the shoulder, "how do you do after it? I warrant you were frightened, weren't you, last night, when it blew but a capful of wind?" "A capful d'ye call it?" said I, "'twas a terrible storm." "A storm, you fool you!" replies he, "do you call that a storm? why it was nothing at all; give us but a good ship and sea-room, and we think nothing of such a squall of wind as that; but you're but a fresh-water sailor, Bob; come, let us make a bowl of punch, and we'll forget all that: d'ye see what charming weather 'tis now?" To make short this sad part of my story, we went the way of all sailors; the punch was made, and I was made half drunk with it, and in that one night's wickedness I drowned all my repentance and resolutions for the future. In a word, as the sea was returned to its smoothness of surface, so my fears and apprehensions of being swallowed up by the sea being forgotten, I entirely forgot the vows that I made in my distress. I found, indeed, some intervals of

reflection; but I roused myself from them, and, applying myself to drinking and company, soon mastered the return of those fits; and I had, in five or six days, got a complete victory over my conscience. But I was to have another trial for it still.

The sixth day of our being at sea we came into Yarmouth Roads; the wind having been contrary and the weather calm, we had made but little way since the storm. Here we were obliged to come to an anchor, and here we lay, the wind continuing contrary, namely, at south-west, for seven or eight days; during which time a great many ships from Newcastle came in to the same roads, as the common harbour where the ships might wait for a wind for the river.

We had not, however, ridden so long but we should have tided it up the river, but that the wind blew too hard. However, the roads being reckoned as good as a harbour, the anchorage good, and our ground-tackle very strong, our men were unconcerned, and spent the time in rest and mirth, after the manner of the sea; but the eighth day, in the morning, the wind increased, and we had all hands at work to strike our top-masts, and make everything snug and close, that the ship might ride as easy as possible. By noon the sea went very high indeed, and our ship rode forecastle in, shipped several seas, and we thought once or twice our anchor had come home; upon which our master ordered out the sheet anchor; so that we rode with two anchors a-head, and the cables veered out to the better end.

By this time it blew a terrible storm indeed, and towards the evening, the mate and boatswain begged the master of our ship to let them cut away the foremast, which he was very unwilling to do; but the boatswain protesting to him, that if he did not the ship would founder, he consented. In the middle of the night one of the men that had been down on purpose to see, cried out we had sprung a leak; another said there was four feet water in the hold. Then all hands were called to the pump. At that very word, my heart, as I thought, died within me; and I fell backwards upon the side of my bed where I sat into the cabin. However, the men roused me, and told me, that I that was able to do nothing before, was as well able to pump as another; at which I stirred up, and went

to the pump and worked very heartily. While this was doing, the master seeing some light colliers, who, not able to ride out of the storm, were obliged to slip and run away to the sea, and would come near us, ordered to fire a gun as a signal of distress. I, who knew nothing what that meant, was so surprised, that I thought the ship had broke, or some dreadful thing happened. In a word, I was so surprised that I fell down in a swoon. As this was a time when everybody had his own life to think of, nobody minded me, but another man stepped up to the pump and thrust me aside with his foot; and it was a great while before I came to myself.

We worked on, but the water increasing in the hold, it was apparent that the ship would founder; and though the storm began to abate a little, yet as it was not possible she could swim till we might run into a port, so the master continued firing guns for help; and a light ship, who had rid it out just a-head of us, ventured a boat out to help us. It was with the utmost hazard the boat came near us; but it was impossible for us to get on board, or for the boat to lie near the ship side, till at last the men rowing very heartily, and venturing their lives to save ours, our men cast them a rope over the stern with a buoy to it, which they took hold of, and we hauled them close under our stern, and got all into their boat. It was to no purpose for them or us, after we were in the boat, to think of reaching to their own ship; so all agreed to let her drive, and partly rowing, partly driving, our boat went away to the northward almost as far as Winterton Ness.

We were not much more than a quarter of an hour out of our ship, but we saw her sink: and then I understood for the first time, what was meant by a ship foundering in the sea.

While we were in this condition, the men yet labouring at the oar to bring the boat near the shore, we could see a great many people running along the shore to assist us, when we should come near; but we made but slow way towards the shore, nor were we able to reach the shore, till being past the light-house at Winterton the land broke off a little the violence of the wind. Here we got in, and though not without much difficulty, got all safe on shore, and walked afterwards on foot to Yarmouth, where we were used with great humanity and had money given us

sufficient to carry us either to London, or back to Hull, as we thought fit.

Had I now had the sense to have gone back to Hull, and have gone home, I had been happy, and my father had even killed the fatted calf for me; for, hearing the ship I went in was cast away in Yarmouth Roads, it was a great while before he had any assurance that I was not drowned.

But my ill fate pushed me on now with an obstinacy that nothing could resist; and though I had several times loud calls from my reason and my more composed judgment to go home, yet I had no power to do it. My comrade, who had helped to harden me before, and who was the master's son, was now less forward than I. The first time he spoke to me after we were at Yarmouth his tone was altered. Looking very melancholy, and shaking his head, he asked me how I did: and telling his father who I was, and how I had come this voyage only for a trial, in order to go farther abroad, his father, turning to me with a very grave and concerned tone, exhorted me to go back to my father and not tempt Providence to my ruin; but I made him little answer, and I saw him no more. Having some money in my pocket, I travelled to London by land; and there, as well as on the road, had many struggles with myself, what course of life I should take, and whether I should go home or go to sea.

As to going home, shame opposed the best motions that offered to my thoughts; and it immediately occurred to me how I should be laughed at among the neighbours, and should be ashamed to see, not my father and mother only, but even everybody else.

In this state of life, however, I remained some time, uncertain what measures to take, and what course of life to lead, till at last I decided to look out for a voyage.

That evil influence which carried me first away from my father's house, that hurried me into the wild and indigested notion of raising my fortune, and that impressed those conceits so forcibly upon me, as to make me deaf to all good advice, and to the entreaties and even the command of my father—I say, the same influence, whatever it was, presented the most unfortunate of all enterprises to my view, and I went on board a vessel bound to the coast of Africa; or, as our sailors vulgarly call it, a voyage to Guinea.

CHAPTER II

LIFE AT SEA—THE FIRST LONG VOYAGE—CAPTURE

It was my fortune to fall into pretty good company in London, where I fell acquainted with the master of a ship who had been on the coast of Guinea; and who, having had very good success there, was resolved to go again. Hearing me say I had a mind to see the world he told me, if I would go the voyage with him I should be at no expense—I should be his mess-mate and his companion.

I embraced the offer; and, entering into a strict friendship with this captain, who was an honest and plain-dealing man, I went the voyage with him, and carried about forty pounds value in such toys and trifles as the captain directed me to buy. This forty pounds I had mustered together by the assistance of some of my relations, whom I corresponded with, and who, I believe, got my father, or at least my mother, to contribute so much as that to my first adventure.

This was the only voyage which I may say was successful in all my adventures, and which I owe to the integrity and honesty of my friend, the captain; under whom also I got a competent knowledge of the mathematics, and the rules of navigation—learned how to keep an account of the ship's course, take an observation, and, in short, to understand some things that were needful to be understood by a sailor; for, as he took delight to instruct me, I took delight to learn; and, in a word, this voyage made me both a sailor and a merchant: for I brought home five pounds nine ounces of gold dust for my adventure, which yielded me in London, at my return, almost three hundred pounds: and this filled me with those aspiring thoughts which have since so completed my ruin.

I was now set up for a Guinea trader; and my friend to my great misfortune, dying soon after his arrival, I resolved to go the same voyage again; and I embarked in the same vessel with one who was his mate in the former voyage, and had now got the command of the ship. This was the unhappiest voyage that ever man made; for though I did not carry quite £100 of my new gained wealth,

so that I had £200 left, and which I lodged with my friend's widow, who was very just to me, yet I fell into terrible misfortunes in this voyage; and the first was this—namely, our ship, making her course towards the Canary Islands, or rather between those islands and the African shore, was surprised, in the grey of the morning, by a Moorish rover of Sallee, who gave chase to us with all the sail she could make. We crowded also as much canvas as our yards would spread, or our masts carry, to have got clear; but the pirate gained upon us, and we prepared to fight, our ship having twelve guns, and the rover eighteen. About three in the afternoon he came up with us, and bringing to, he entered sixty men upon our decks, who immediately fell to cutting and hacking the decks and rigging. We plied them with small shot, half-pikes, powder-chests, and such like, and cleared our deck of them twice. However, our ship being disabled, and three of our men killed, and eight wounded, we were obliged to yield, and were carried all prisoners into Sallee, a port belonging to the Moors.

The usage I had there was not so dreadful as at first I apprehended. I was kept by the captain of the rover, as his proper prize, and made his slave. At this surprising change of my circumstances, from a merchant to a miserable slave, I was perfectly overwhelmed; but, alas! this was but a taste of the misery I was to go through.

As my new patron or master had taken me home to his house, so I was in hopes that he would take me with him when he went to sea again, believing that it would be some time or other his fate to be taken by a Spanish or Portugal man-of-war, and that then I should be set at liberty. But this hope of mine was soon taken away; for when he went to sea, he left me on shore to look after his little garden and do the common drudgery of slaves about his house; and when he came home again from his cruise, he ordered me to lie in the cabin, to look after the ship.

Here I meditated nothing but my escape, and what method I might take to effect it; but found no way that had the least probability in it.

After about two years, an odd circumstance presented itself which put the whole thought of making some attempt for my liberty again in my head: my patron lying at home longer than usual, without fitting out his ship, he used constantly to take the ship's pinnace, and go out into the

road a-fishing; and as he always took me and a young Moresco with him to row the boat, we made him very merry, and I proved very dexterous in catching fish; insomuch that sometimes he would send me with the Moresco to catch a dish of fish for him.

It happened one time that going a-fishing with him in a calm morning, a fog rose so thick, that though we were not half a league from the shore, we lost sight of it; and rowing we knew not whither, we laboured all day, and all the next night; and when the morning came, we found we had pulled off to sea, instead of pulling in for the shore, and that we were at least two leagues from the land: however we got well in again, though with a great deal of labour, and some danger, for the wind began to blow pretty fresh in the morning: but, particularly, we were all very hungry.

But our patron, warned by this disaster, resolved to take more care of himself for the future; and having lying by him the long-boat of our English ship which he had taken, he resolved he would not go a-fishing any more without a compass and some provision; so he ordered the carpenter of his ship, who also was an English slave, to build a little state-room or cabin in the middle of the long-boat with a a place to stand behind it to steer, and haul home the main-sheet; and room before for a hand or two to stand and work the sails. She sailed with what we call a shoulder-of-mutton sail; and the boom jibbed over the top of the cabin, which had in it room for him to lie, with a slave or two, and a table to eat on, with some small lockers to put in some bottles of liquor, also his bread, rice, and coffee.

We were frequently out with this boat a-fishing: and it happened one day, that he had appointed to go out in this boat with two or three Moors of some distinction, and for whom he had provided a larger store of provisions than usual, and had ordered me to get ready three fusils with powder and shot for that they designed some sport of fowling as well as fishing.

I got all things ready as he had directed, and waited the next morning with the boat washed clean and everything to accommodate his guests; when by-and-by my patron came on board alone, and told me his guests had put off going, upon some business that fell out, and ordered me to go out with the boat, and catch them some fish, for

that his friends were to sup at his house; he commanded me, too, that I should bring it home to his house: all which I prepared to do.

This moment my former notions of deliverance darted into my thoughts, for now I found I was like to have a little ship at my command; and my master being gone, I prepared to furnish myself, not for fishing business, but for a voyage, though I knew not whither I would steer; for anywhere to get out of that place was my way.

My first contrivance was to make a pretence to speak to this Moor, to get something for our subsistence on board; for I told him we must not presume to eat of our patron's bread. He said that was true; so he brought a large basket of biscuit and three jars with fresh water into the boat. I knew where my patron's case of bottles stood and I conveyed them into the boat while the Moor was on shore, as if they had been there before for our master: I conveyed also a great lump of bees'-wax into the boat, with a parcel of twine or thread, a hatchet, a saw, and a hammer, all which were of great use to us afterwards, especially the wax to make candles. His name was Ishmael, whom they called Muly or Moley; so I called to him: "Moley," said I, "our patron's guns are on board the boat; can you not get a little powder and shot? It may be we may kill some alcamies (a fowl like our curlews) for ourselves, for I know he keeps the gunner's stores in the ship." "Yes," says he, "I'll bring some;" and accordingly he brought a great leather pouch, which held about a pound and a half of powder, and another with shot, and put all into the boat; and thus furnished with everything needful, we sailed out of the port to fish. The castle, which is at the entrance of the port, knew who we were, and took no notice of us; and we were not above a mile out of the port before we hauled in our sail, and set us down to fish. The wind blew from the north-north-east, which was contrary to my desire; for had it blown southerly, I had been sure to have made the coast of Spain, and at least reached to the bay of Cadiz; but my resolutions were, blow which way it would, I would be gone from that horrid place where I was, and leave the rest to fate.

After we had fished some time, and catched nothing—for when I had fish on my hook I would not pull them up, that he might not see them—I said to the Moor, "This

will not do—our master will not be thus served—we must stand farther off." He, thinking no harm, agreed, and being in the head of the boat, set the sails; and as I had the helm, I ran the boat out near a league farther, and then brought her to, as if I would fish; when, giving the boy the helm, I stepped forward to where the Moor was, and making as if I stooped for something behind him, I took him by surprise with my arm under his waist, and tossed him clear overboard into the sea: he rose immediately, for he swam like a cork, and called to me, begged to be taken in, told me he would go all over the world with me. He swam so strong after the boat, that he would have reached me very quickly, there being but little wind; upon which I stepped into the cabin, and fetching one of the fowling-pieces, I presented it at him, and told him, if he would be quiet I would do him no hurt—"But," said I, "you swim well enough to reach the shore, and the sea is calm—make the best of your way to shore, and I will do you no harm; but if you come near the boat, I'll shoot you through the head, for I am resolved to have my liberty"—so he turned himself about, and swam for the shore, and I make no doubt but he reached it with ease, for he was an excellent swimmer.

I could have been content to have taken this Moor with me and have drowned the boy, but there was no venturing to trust him. When he was gone, I turned to the boy, whom they called Xury, and said to him, "Xury, if you will be faithful to me, I'll make you a great man; but if you will not stroke your face to be true to me (that is, swear by Mahomet and his father's beard), I must throw you into the sea too." The boy smiled in my face, and spoke so innocently, that I could not mistrust him; and swore to be faithful to me, and go all over the world with me.

While I was in view of the Moor that was swimming, I stood out directly to sea with the boat, rather stretching to windward, that they might think me gone towards the Straits' mouth, as indeed any one that had been in their wits must have been supposed to do; for who would have supposed we were sailed on to the southward, to the truly barbarian coast, where whole nations of negroes were sure to surround us with their canoes, and destroy us; where we could never once go on shore, but we should

be devoured by savage beasts, or more merciless savages of human kind?

But as soon as it grew dusk in the evening, I changed my course, and steered directly south and by east, bending my course a little toward the east, that I might keep in with the shore; and having a fair fresh gale of wind, and a smooth quiet sea, I made such sail, that I believe, by the next day at three o'clock in the afternoon, when I first made the land, I could not be less than one hundred and fifty miles south of Sallee, quite beyond the Emperor of Morocco's dominions.

Yet such was the fright I had taken at the Moors, and the dreadful apprehensions I had of falling into their hands, that I would not stop, or go on shore, or come to an anchor, the wind continuing fair, till I had sailed in that manner five days; and then the wind shifting to the southward, I concluded also that if any of our vessels were in chase of me, they also would now give over; so I ventured to make to the coast, and come to an anchor in the mouth of a little river, I knew not what or where—neither saw, nor desired to see, any people—the principal thing I wanted was fresh water. We came into this creek in the evening, resolving to swim on shore as soon as it was dark, and discover the country; but as soon as it was quite dark, we heard such dreadful noises of the barking, roaring, and howling of wild creatures, of we knew not what kinds, that the poor boy was ready to die with fear, and begged of me not to go on shore till day. "Well, Xury," said I, "then I won't; but, it may be we may see men by day, who will be as bad to us as those lions." "Then we give them the shoot gun," says Xury, laughing, "make them run away." Such English Xury spoke by conversing among us slaves. However, I was glad to see the boy so cheerful, and I gave him a dram, out of our patron's case of bottles, to cheer him up. After all, Xury's advice was good, and I took it; we dropped our little anchor, and lay still all night—I say still, for we slept none—for in two or three hours we saw vast great creatures (we knew not what to call them) of many sorts, come down to the seashore, and run into the water, wallowing for the pleasure of cooling themselves; and they made such hideous howlings that I never indeed heard the like.

Xury was dreadfully frighted, and indeed so was I too;

but we were both more frighted when we heard one of these mighty creatures come swimming towards our boat. We could not see him, but we might hear him by his blowing, to be a huge and furious beast; Xury said it was a lion, and it might be so for aught I know. Poor Xury cried to me to weigh the anchor, and row away. "No," says I, "Xury, we can slip our cable with a buoy to it, and go to sea; they cannot follow us far." I had no sooner said so, but I perceived the creature (whatever it was) within two oars' length, which something surprised me; however, I immediately stepped to the cabin door, and taking up my gun, fired at him, upon which he immediately turned about, and swam to the shore again.

But it was not possible to describe the horrible noises that were raised within the country upon the report of a gun—a thing I have some reason to believe those creatures had never heard before. This convinced me that there was no going on shore for us in the night upon that coast; and how to venture on shore in the day, was another question, too; for to have fallen into the hands of any of the savages, had been as bad as to have fallen into the paws of lions and tigers.

Be that as it would, we were obliged to go on shore somewhere or other for water, for we had not a pint left in the boat. Xury said if I would let him go on shore with one of the jars, he would find if there was any water, and bring some to me. I asked him why I should not go, and he stay in the boat? The boy answered with affection, "If wild mans come, they eat me, you go way." "Well, Xury," said I, "we will both go, and if wild mans come, we will kill them." So I gave Xury a piece of bread to eat, and a dram out of our patron's case of bottles, and we hauled the boat in, and waded on shore, carrying nothing but our arms, and two jars for water.

I did not care to go out of sight of the boat, fearing the coming of canoes with savages down the river: but the boy, seeing a low place about a mile up the country, rambled to it; and by-and-by I saw him come running towards me. I thought he was pursued by some savage, or frighted with some wild beast, and I ran forward to help him; but when I came nearer to him, I saw hanging over his shoulders, a creature that he had shot, like a hare, but different in colour: however, we were very glad of it.

and it was very good meat; but the great joy that poor Xury came with, was to tell me he had found good water, and seen no wild mans. So we filled our jars and feasted on the hare he had killed, and prepared to go on our way.

As I had been one voyage to the coast before, I knew very well that the islands of the Canaries, and the Cape de Verd islands also, lay not far off from the coast. But I had no instruments to take an observation, and did not exactly remember what latitude they were in: otherwise I might now easily have found some of these islands. But my hope was, that if I stood along this coast till I came to that part where the English traded, I should find some of their vessels that would take us in.

By the best of my calculation, that place where I now was must be that country which, lying between the Emperor of Morocco's dominions and the negroes, lies waste and uninhabited, except by wild beasts, the negroes and the Moors both forsaking it because of the prodigious numbers of tigers, lions and other creatures, which harbour there—and, indeed, for near an hundred miles together upon this coast, we saw nothing but a waste country by day, and heard nothing but roaring of wild beasts by night.

Once or twice in the daytime I thought I saw the Pico of Teneriffe in the Canaries, and had a great mind to venture out, in hopes of reaching thither; but having tried twice, I was forced in again by contrary winds; so I resolved to keep along the shore.

Several times I was obliged to land for fresh water, after we had left this place; and once, in particular, being early in the morning, we came to an anchor under a little point of land which was pretty high; and saw a terrible great lion that lay on the side of the shore under the shade of the hill. "Xury," says I, "you shall go on shore and kill him." Xury looked frighted, and said, "Me kill! he eat me at one mouth!"—one mouthful he meant: however, I said no more to the boy, but took the biggest gun, loaded it with a good charge of powder, and, taking the best aim I could, shot him into the head, and had the pleasure of seeing him drop, and lie struggling for life. Then Xury took heart and, taking a little gun, swam to the shore, and coming to the creature, shot him into the head again, which dispatched him quite.

This was game indeed to us, but this was no food

I bethought myself, however, that perhaps the skin of him might, one way or other, be of some value to us; and I resolved to take off his skin if I could. So Xury and I went to work with him. It took us both up the whole day, but at last we got off the hide of him, and, spreading it on the top of our cabin, the sun effectually dried it, and it afterwards served me to lie upon.

CHAPTER III

RESCUE—SUGAR PLANTING IN BRAZIL—A DISASTROUS VOYAGE

After this stop, we made on to the southward continually for ten days, living very sparingly on our provisions, which began to abate very much, and going no oftener into the shore than we were obliged to do for fresh water; my design in this was to make the River Gambia or Senegal, where I was in hopes to meet with some European ship. I knew that all the ships from Europe, which sailed either to the coast of Guinea, to Brazil, or to the East Indies, made this Cape, and either that I must meet with some ship or must perish.

When I had pursued this resolution about ten days longer, I began to see that the land was inhabited; and in two or three places, as we sailed by, we saw people stand upon the shore to look at us: we could also perceive they were quite black, and stark naked. I was inclined to go on shore to them; but Xury was my better counsellor and said to me, "No go, no go." However, I hauled in nearer the shore that I might talk to them, and I observed they had no weapons in their hands except one, who had a long slender stick, which Xury said was a lance, and that they would throw them a great way with good aim; so I kept at a distance, but talked with them by signs as well as I could, and particularly made signs for something to eat; they beckoned to me to stop my boat, and they would fetch me some meat. Upon this, I lowered the top of my sail, and lay by, and two of them ran up into the country, and in less than half an hour came back, and brought with them two pieces of dry flesh and some corn,

such as is the produce of their country. We were willing to accept it, but how to come at it was our next dispute, for I was not for venturing on shore to them, and they were as much afraid of us. So they brought it to the shore and laid it down, and went a great way off till we fetched it on board, and then came close to us again.

We made signs of thanks to them, for we had nothing to make them amends; but an opportunity offered that very instant to oblige them wonderfully; for while we were lying by the shore, came two mighty creatures, one pursuing the other with great fury from the mountains towards the sea: whether they were in sport or in rage, we could not tell, but we found the people terribly frighted, especially the women. The man that had the lance did not fly from them, but the rest did: however, the two creatures plunged themselves into the sea, and swam about us as if they had come for their diversion. At last one of them began to come nearer our boat than at first I expected; but I had loaded my gun with all possible expedition, and as soon as he came fairly within my reach, I fired, and shot him directly into the head: immediately he sank down into the water, struggling for life, and made to the shore; but between the wound, and the strangling of the water, he died just before he reached the shore.

It is impossible to express the astonishment of these poor creatures at the noise and the fire of my gun; some of them fell down as dead with the very terror. But when they saw the creature dead, and that I made signs to them to come to the shore, they took heart, and began to search for the creature. By the help of a rope, which I slung round him, and gave the negroes to haul, they dragged him on shore, and found that it was a leopard, spotted, and fine to an admirable degree, and the negroes held up their hands with admiration to think what it was I had killed him with.

The other creature, frighted with the flash of fire and the noise of the gun, swam on shore, and ran up directly to the mountains from whence they came, nor could I at that distance know what it was. I found quickly the negroes were for eating the flesh of this creature, so I was willing to have them take it as a favour from me, which when I made signs to them that they might take him, they

were very thankful for. Immediately they fell to work with him, and though they had no knife, yet, with a sharpened piece of wood, they took off his skin much more readily than we could have done with a knife. They offered me some of the flesh, which I declined, but made signs for the skin, which they gave me very freely, and brought me a great deal more of their provision, which I accepted; then I made signs to them for some water, and held out one of my jars to them, turning it bottom upward, to show that it was empty, and that I wanted to have it filled. They called immediately to some of their friends, and there came two women, and brought a great vessel made of earth, and burned, as I suppose, in the sun; this they set down for me, as before, and I sent Xury on shore with my jars, and filled them all three.

I was now furnished with roots and corn, such as it was, and water; and, leaving my friendly negroes, I made forward for about eleven days more, without offering to go near the shore, till I saw the land run out a great length into the sea, at about the distance of four or five leagues before me; and the sea being very calm, I kept a large offing to make this point; at length, doubling the point, at about two leagues from the land, I saw plainly land on the other side to sea-ward; then I concluded, as it was most certain indeed, that this was the Cape de Verd, and those the islands, called from thence Cape de Verd Islands. However, they were at a great distance, and I could not well tell what I had best to do; for, if I should be taken with a fresh of wind, I might neither reach one nor the other.

In this dilemma, as I was very pensive, I stepped into the cabin and sat me down, Xury having the helm, when, on a sudden, the boy cried out, "Master, master, a ship with a sail!" and the foolish boy was frighted out of his wits, thinking it must needs be some of his master's ships sent to pursue us, when I knew we were gotten far enough out of their reach. I jumped out of the cabin, and immediately saw that it was a Portuguese ship, and, as I thought, was bound to the coast of Guinea; upon which I stretched out to sea as much as I could, resolving to speak with them if possible.

With all the sail I could make, I found I should not be

able to come in their way, but after I had crowded to the utmost, and began to despair, they, it seems, saw me by the help of their perspective glasses, and lay by for me, and, in about three hours' time, I came up with them.

They asked me what I was, in Portuguese, and in Spanish, and in French; but I understood none of them: but, at last, a Scots sailor, who was on board, called to me, and I answered him, and told him I was an Englishman —that I had made my escape out of slavery from the Moors at Sallee. They bade me come on board, and very kindly took me in, and all my goods.

It was inexpressible joy to me, as any one would believe, that I was thus delivered, as I esteemed it, from such a miserable and almost hopeless condition as I was in, and immediately I offered all I had to the captain of the ship, as a return for my deliverance; but he generously told me he would take nothing from me, but that all I had should be delivered safe to me when I came to the Brazils. "For," says he, "if I should take from you what you have, you will be starved there. I will carry you thither in charity, and those things will help you to buy your subsistence there, and your passage home again."

As he was charitable in his proposal, so he was just in the performance to a tittle; for he ordered the seamen, that none should offer to touch anything I had: then he took everything into his own possession, and gave me back an exact inventory of them, that I might have them; even so much as my earthen jars.

As to my boat, it was a very good one, and that he saw, and told me he would give me a note of his hand to pay me eighty pieces of eight for it at Brazil.

We had a very good voyage to the Brazils, and arrived in the Bay de Todos los Santos, or All Saints' Bay, in about twenty-two days after. And now I was once more delivered from the most miserable of all conditions of life; and what to do next with myself I was now to consider.

The generous treatment the captain gave me, I can never enough remember. He would take nothing of me for my passage—gave me twenty ducats for the leopard's skin, and forty for the lion's skin, which I had in my boat, and caused everything I had in the ship to be punctually delivered me; and what I was willing to sell he bought—in a word, I made about two hundred and twenty pieces

of eight of all my cargo; and with this stock I went on shore in the Brazils.

I had not been long here, but being recommended to the house of a good honest man like himself, who had a plantation and a sugar-house, I lived with him some time, and acquainted myself by that means with the manner of their planting and making of sugar. Seeing how well the planters lived, and how they grew rich suddenly, I resolved to find out some way to get my money, which I had left in London, remitted to me. To this purpose, getting a kind of a letter of naturalisation, I purchased as much land that was uncured as my money would reach, and formed a plan for my plantation and settlement, and such a one as might be suitable to the stock which I proposed to myself to receive from England.

I had a neighbour, a Portuguese of Lisbon, but born of English parents, whose name was Wells, and in much the same circumstances as I was. I call him neighbour, because his plantation lay next to mine, and we went on very sociably together. My stock was but low, as well as his; and we rather planted for food, than anything else, for about two years. However, we began to increase, and our land began to come into order; so that the third year we planted some tobacco, and made each of us a large piece of ground ready for planting canes in the year to come.

I was, in some degree, settled in my measures for carrying on the plantation, before my kind friend, the captain of the ship that took me up at sea, went back; for the ship remained there, preparing for his voyage, near three months; when, telling him what little stock I had left behind me in London, he gave me this friendly and sincere advice: "Seignor," says he, "if you will give me letters, with orders to the person who has your money in London, to send your effects to Lisbon, to such persons as I shall direct, I will bring them at my return; but I would have you give orders but for one hundred pounds sterling, for so that, if it come safe, you may order the rest the same way, and if it miscarry, you may have the other half to have recourse to for your supply."

This was so wholesome advice that I could not but be convinced it was the best course I could take; so I accordingly prepared letters to the gentlewoman with whom I had left my money, as he desired.

I went on the next year with great success in my plantation: I raised fifty great rolls of tobacco on my own ground, and these fifty rolls being each of above a hundredweight, were well cured and laid by against the return of the fleet from Lisbon. And now, increasing in business and in wealth, my head began to be full of projects and undertakings beyond my reach; such as are, indeed, often the ruin of the best heads in business.

Having now lived almost four years in the Brazils, and beginning to thrive and prosper very well upon my plantation, I had not only learnt the language, but had contracted friendship among my fellow-planters, as well as among the merchants at St. Salvadore, and in my discourse among them, I had frequently given them an account of my two voyages to the coast of Guinea, the manner of trading with the negroes there, and how easy it was to purchase upon the coast, for trifles—such as beads, toys, knives, and the like—not only gold dust, but negroes for the service of the Brazils in great numbers.

They listened always very attentively to my discourses on these heads, but especially to that part which related to buying negroes, which was a trade at that time not far entered into, but, as far as it was, had been carried on by the permission of the kings of Spain and Portugal, and engrossed in the public, so that few negroes were bought, and those excessively dear.

It happened, being in company with some merchants and planters of my acquaintance, and talking of those things very earnestly, three of them came to me the next morning and told me that they had a mind to fit out a ship to go to Guinea; that they had all plantations as well as I, and were straitened for nothing so much as servants; that as it was a trade that could not be carried on, because they could not publicly sell the negroes when they came home, so they desired to make but one voyage, to bring the negroes on shore privately, and divide them among their own plantations; and the question was, whether I would go in the ship, to manage the trading part upon the coast of Guinea? and they offered me, that I should have my equal share of the negroes, without providing any part of the stock.

This was a fair proposal, it must be confessed, and I, that was born to be my own destroyer, could no more

resist the offer than I could restrain my first rambling designs, when my father's good counsel was lost upon me. I told them I would go if they would undertake to look after my plantation in my absence, and would dispose of it to such as I should direct, if I miscarried. This they all engaged to do, and entered into writings, or covenants, to do so. I made a formal will, making the captain of the ship that had saved my life as before, my heir, but obliging him to dispose of my effects as I had directed in my will, one half to himself, and the other half to be shipped to England. The ship being fitted out, and the cargo furnished, and all things done as by agreement by my partners in the voyage, I went on board in an evil hour again, the 1st of September, 1659, being the same day eight years that I went from my father and mother at Hull in order to act the rebel to their authority, and the fool to my own interest.

Our ship was about one hundred and twenty tons burden, carried six guns, and fourteen men, besides the master, his boy, and myself; and the same day I went on board we set sail, standing away to the northward upon our own coast, with design to stretch over for the African coast, when they came about ten or twelve degrees of northern latitude, which, it seems, was the manner of their course in those days. In this course we passed the Line in about twelve days' time, and were, by our last observation, in seven degrees, twenty-two minutes, northern latitude, when a violent tornado, or hurricane, took us quite out of our knowledge: it began from the south-east, came about to the north-west, and then settled into the north-east; from whence it blew in such a terrible manner, that for twelve days together we could do nothing but drive, and let it carry us whither fate and the fury of the winds directed. During those twelve days, I need not say that I expected every day to be swallowed up, nor indeed, did any in the ship expect to save their lives.

The twelfth day, the weather abating a little, the master made an observation as well as he could, and found that he was near the coast of Guinea, or the north part of Brazil, beyond the river Amazon, towards that of the river Orinoco, commonly called the Great River, and began to consider what course he should take; for the

ship was much disabled, and he was going directly back to the coast of Brazil.

I was positively against that, and, looking over the charts of the sea coast of America with him, we concluded, there was no inhabited country for us to have recourse to, till we came within the circle of the Caribbee Islands; and therefore resolved to stand away for Barbadoes, which, by keeping off at sea, to avoid the indraft of the gulf of Mexico, we might easily perform in about fifteen days' sail: whereas we could not possibly make our voyage to the coast of Africa, without some assistance.

With this design we changed our course, and steered away north-west by west, in order to reach some of our English islands, where I hoped for relief: but our voyage was otherwise determined; for, being in the latitude of twelve degrees, eighteen minutes, a second storm came upon us, which drove us so far out of the way of all human commerce, that, had all our lives been saved as to the sea, we were in danger of being devoured by savages rather than ever returning to our own country.

In this distress, the wind still blowing very hard, one of our men, early in the morning, cried out, "Land!" and we had no sooner run out of the cabin to look out, in hopes of seeing whereabouts in the world we were, but the ship struck upon sand, and her motion being so stopped, the sea broke over her in such a manner that we expected we should all have perished immediately.

We knew not upon what land it was we were driven, and we could not hope to have the ship hold many minutes without breaking in pieces, unless the winds, by a kind of miracle, should turn immediately about. Now the ship having thus struck upon the sand, and sticking too fast for us to expect to get her off, we had to think of saving our lives as well as we could. We had a boat on board, but how to get her off into the sea was a doubtful thing; however, there was no room to debate, for we fancied the ship would break in pieces every minute.

In this distress, the mate of our vessel lay hold of the boat, and, with the help of the rest of the men, got her slung over the ship's side, and getting all into her, let go, and committed ourselves to God's mercy and the wild sea.

And now we all saw plainly, that the sea went so high

that the boat could not live, and that we should be inevitably drowned. As to making sail, we had none, nor, if we had, could we have done anything with it; so we worked at the oars towards the land, though with heavy hearts, like men going to execution; for we all knew, that when the boat came nearer the shore, she would be dashed in a thousand pieces by the breach of the sea. However, after we had rowed about a league and a half, as we reckoned it, a raging wave, mountain-like, came rolling astern of us, and plainly bade us expect a watery grave. It took us with such a fury that it overset the boat at once; and, separating us as well from the boat as from one another we were all swallowed up in a moment.

Nothing can describe the confusion of thought which I felt when I sank into the water; for though I swam very well, yet I could not deliver myself from the waves so as to draw breath, till that wave having carried me a vast way on towards the shore, and having spent itself, went back, and left me upon the land half dead with the water I took in. I had so much presence of mind as well as breath left, that, seeing myself nearer the mainland than I expected, I got upon my feet and endeavoured to make on towards the land as fast as I could before another wave should return and take me up again. But I saw the sea come after me as high as a great hill, and as furious as an enemy, which I had no means or strength to contend with—my business was to hold my breath and raise myself upon the water, if I could; and so, by swimming, to preserve my breathing, and pilot myself towards the shore, if possible—my greatest concern now being, that the sea, as it would carry me a great way towards the shore when it came on, might not carry me back again with it when it gave back towards the sea.

The wave that came upon me again buried me at once twenty or thirty feet deep in its own body; and I could feel myself carried with a mighty force and swiftness towards the shore, but I held my breath, and assisted myself to swim still forward with all my might. I was ready to burst with holding my breath, when, as I felt myself rising up, so, to my immediate relief, I found my head and hands shoot out above the surface of the water; and though it was not two seconds of time that I could keep myself so, yet it gave me breath and new courage.

I was covered again with water a good while, but not so long, but I held it out; and, finding the water had spent itself and began to return, I struck forward against the return of the waves and felt ground again with my feet. I stood still a few moments to recover breath, and till the water went from me, and then took to my heels, and ran with what strength I had farther towards the shore, and twice more I was lifted up by the waves and carried forwards as before, the shore being very flat.

The last wave of those two had been well nigh fatal to me; for the sea, having hurried me along as before, dashed me against a piece of a rock, and that with such force that it left me helpless as to my own deliverance; for the blow taking my side and breast, beat the breath out of my body, and had it returned again immediately I must have been strangled in the water; but I recovered a little before the return of the waves, and, seeing I should be covered again with the water, I resolved to hold fast by a piece of the rock, and so to hold my breath, if possible, till the wave went back. Now, as the waves were not so high as at first, being near land, I held my hold till the wave abated, and then fetched another run, which brought me to the mainland, where, to my great comfort, I clambered up the cliffs of the shore, and sat me down upon the grass, free from danger, and quite out of reach of the water.

Presently I walked about on the shore, lifting up my hands, rapt in the contemplation of my deliverance, making a thousand gestures and motions which I cannot describe—reflecting upon all my comrades that were drowned, and that there should not be one soul saved but myself—for I never saw them afterwards, or any sign of them, except three of their hats, one cap, and two shoes that were not fellows.

I cast my eyes to the stranded vessel, which the breach and froth of the sea being so big, I could hardly see, it lay so far off, and considered was it possible I could get on shore?

After I had solaced my mind, I began to look round me, to see what kind of place I was in, and what was next to be done; and I soon found that I had a dreadful deliverance, for I was wet, had no clothes to shift me, nor anything either to eat or drink to comfort me; neither did I see any prospect before me but that of perishing

with hunger, or being devoured by wild beasts; and that which was particularly afflicting to me was that I had no weapon either to hunt and kill any creature for my sustenance, or to defend myself against any other creature that might desire to kill me for theirs—in a word, I had nothing about me but a knife, a tobacco pipe, and a little tobacco in a box; this was all my provision, and I began with a heavy heart to consider what would be my lot if there were any ravenous beasts in that country.

All the remedy that offered to my thoughts at that time was, to get up into a thick bushy tree, which grew near me, and where I resolved to sit all night. I walked about a furlong from the shore to see if I could find any fresh water to drink, which I did, to my great joy; and having drunk and put a little tobacco in my mouth to prevent hunger, I went to the tree, and getting up into it, endeavoured to place myself so as that if I should sleep I might not fall; and having cut me a short stick like a truncheon for my defence, I took up my lodging; and, having been excessively fatigued, I slept as comfortably as I believe few could have done in my condition, and found myself most refreshed with it.

CHAPTER IV

SHIPWRECKED UPON AN UNKNOWN ISLAND

When I waked it was broad day, the weather clear, and the storm abated, so that the sea did not rage and swell as before; but that which surprised me most was, that the ship was lifted off in the night from the sand where she lay, by the swelling of the tide, and was driven up almost as far as the rock which I first mentioned, where I had been so bruised by the wave dashing me against it; this being within about a mile from the shore where I was, and the ship seeming to stand upright still, I wished myself on board, that, at least, I might save some necessary things for my use.

When I came down from my apartment in the tree, I looked about me again, and the first thing I found was the boat, which lay as the wind and the sea had tossed her

up upon the land, about two miles on my right hand. I walked as far as I could upon the shore, but found an inlet of water between me and the boat, which was about half a mile broad: so I came back for the present, being more intent upon getting at the ship, where I hoped to find something for my present subsistence.

A little after noon, I found the sea very calm, and the tide ebbed so far out, that I could come within a quarter of a mile of the ship; and here I found a fresh renewing of my grief: for I saw evidently, that if we had kept on board, we had all got safe on shore, and I had not been so miserable as to be left entirely destitute of all comfort and company, as I now was. This forced tears from my eyes again; but I resolved, if possible, to get to the ship —so I pulled off my clothes and took to the water. But when I came to the ship, my difficulty was still greater to know how to get on board; for, as she lay aground and high out of the water, there was nothing within my reach to lay hold of. I swam round her twice, and the second time I spied a small piece of rope, which I wondered I did not see at first, hanging by the fore-chains, so low that with great difficulty I got hold of it, and, by the help of that rope, got up into the forecastle of the ship. Here I found that the ship had a great deal of water in her hold, but that she lay on the side of a bank of hard sand, with her stern lifted up on the bank, and her head, low almost to the water. By this means all her quarter was free, and all in that part was dry; for you may be sure my first work was to search and see what was spoiled, and what was free; and first I found that all the ship's provisions were dry and untouched by the water; and being very well disposed to eat, I went to the bread-room and filled my pockets with biscuit, and ate it as I went about other things, for I had no time to lose. I also found some rum in the great cabin, of which I took a large dram, and which I needed to spirit me for what was before me. Now I wanted nothing but a boat, to furnish myself with many things which I foresaw would be very necessary to me.

It was in vain to sit still and wish for what was not to be had; and this extremity roused my application. We had several spare yards, and two or three large spars of wood, and a spare topmast or two in the ship; I resolved to fall to work with these, and flung as many of

. . . my raft floated away, and I thrust her off with the oar . . .

[*see page 34*

them overboard as I could manage for their weight, tying every one with a rope, that they might not drive away. When this was done, I went down to the ship's side, and pulling them to me, I tied four of them fast together at both ends as well as I could, in the form of a raft, and laying two or three short pieces of plank upon them crossways, I found I could walk upon it very well, but that it was not able to bear any great weight, the pieces being too light; so, with the carpenter's saw, I cut a spare topmast into three lengths, and added them to my raft which was now strong enough to bear any reasonable weight. My next care was what to load it with, and how to preserve what I laid upon it from the surf of the sea; but I was not long considering this. I first got three of the seamen's chests, which I had broken open and emptied, and lowered them down upon my raft. One of these I filled with provisions, namely, bread, rice, three Dutch cheeses, five pieces of dried goats' flesh, which we lived much upon, and a little remainder of European corn, which had been laid by for some fowls which we brought to sea with us. I found several cases of bottles belonging to our skipper, in which were some cordial waters, in all, above five or six gallons. These I stowed by themselves, there being no need to put them into the chest, nor room for them. While I was doing this, I found the tide began to flow, though very calm, and I had the mortification to see my coat, shirt, and waistcoat, which I had left upon the sand, swim away. However, this put me upon rummaging for clothes, of which I found enough, but took no more than I wanted for present use, for I had other things which my eye was more upon: as, first, tools to work with on shore; and it was after long searching that I found the carpenter's chest, which was indeed a very useful prize to me, and much more valuable than a ship load of gold would have been at that time. I got it down to my raft, even whole as it was, without losing time to look into it, for I knew in general what it contained.

My next care was for some ammunition and arms. There were two very good fowling-pieces in the great cabin, and two pistols: these I secured first, with some powder-horns, and a small bag of shot, and two old rusty swords. I knew there were three barrels of powder in the ship, and after much search I found them, two of them

dry and good, the third had taken water. Those two I got to my raft, with the arms. And now I thought myself pretty well freighted, and began to think how I should get to shore with them, having neither sail, oar, nor rudder, and the least capful of wind would have overset all my navigation.

What little wind there was blew me toward the land: and I hoped to find some creek or river there which I might make use of as a port to get to land with my cargo.

As I imagined, so it was: there appeared before me a little opening of the land, and I found a strong current of the tide set into it, so I guided my raft as well as I could to keep in the middle of the stream; but here I had like to have suffered a second shipwreck, which, if I had, I think verily would have broke my heart; for, knowing nothing of the coast, my raft ran aground at one end of it upon a shoal, and, not being aground at the other end, it wanted but a little that all my cargo had slipped off towards that end that was afloat, and so fallen into the water. I did my utmost, by setting my back against the chests, to keep them in their places, but could not thrust off the raft with all my strength; neither durst I stir from the posture I was in, but, holding up the chests with all my might, stood in that manner near half an hour, in which time the rising of the water brought me a little more upon the level; and, a little after, the water still rising, my raft floated again, and I thrust her off with the oar I had into the channel; and at length found myself in the mouth of a little river, with land on both sides, and a strong current running up. I looked on both sides for a proper place to get to shore; for I was not willing to be driven too high up the river, hoping, in time, to see some ship at sea, and therefore resolved to place myself as near the coast as I could.

At length I spied a little cove on the right shore of the creek, to which, with great pain and difficulty, I guided my raft, and at last got so near that I could thrust her directly in: but here I had like to have dipped all my cargo in the sea again; for that shore lying pretty steep, there was no place to land, but where one end of the float, if it ran on shore, would lie so high, and the other sink lower as before, that it would endanger my cargo again: all that I could do, was to wait till the tide was at the

highest, keeping the raft with my oar like an anchor to hold the side of it fast to the shore, near a flat piece of ground, which I expected the water would flow over; and so it did. As soon as I found water enough—for my raft drew about a foot of water—I thrust her on upon that flat piece of ground, and there moored her, by sticking my two broken oars into the ground—one on one side, near one end, and one on the other side, near the other end; and thus I lay till the water ebbed away, and left my raft and all my cargo safe on shore.

My next work was to view the country, and seek a proper place for my habitation, and my goods, to secure them from whatever might happen. Where I was, I yet knew not; whether on the continent or on an island—whether inhabited or not inhabited—whether in danger of wild beasts or not. There was a hill, not above a mile from me, which seemed to overtop some other hills which lay as in a ridge from it northward. I took out one of the fowling-pieces, and one of the pistols, and a horn of powder; and thus armed, I travelled for discovery up to the top of that hill, where, after I had with great labour and difficulty got to the top, I saw to my great affliction, that I was in an island, environed every way with the sea—no land to be seen, except some rocks which lay a great way off, and two small islands less than this, which lay about three leagues to the west.

I found also, that the island I was in was barren, and, as I saw good reason to believe, uninhabited, except by wild beasts, of which, however, I saw none; yet I saw abundance of fowls, but knew not their kinds; neither, when I killed them, could I tell what was fit for food, and what not. At my coming back, I shot at a great bird, which I saw sitting upon a tree on the side of a great wood: I believe it was the first gun that had been fired there since the creation of the world. I had no sooner fired, but, from all parts of the wood, there arose an innumerable number of fowls of many sorts, making a confused screaming and crying, every one according to his usual note; but not one of them of any kind that I knew. As for the creature I killed, I took it to be a kind of a hawk, its colour and beak resembling it, but it had no talons or claws, more than common; its flesh was carrion, and fit for nothing.

Contented with this discovery, I came back to my raft, and began to consider that I might yet get a great many things out of the ship, which would be useful to me, particularly some of the rigging and sails, and such other things as might come to land, and I resolved to make another voyage on board the vessel, if possible. Knowing that the first storm that blew must necessarily break her all in pieces, I resolved to set all other things apart, till I got everything out of the ship that I could get. Then I called a council in my thoughts whether I should take back the raft; but this appeared impracticable; so I resolved to go as before, when the tide was down, and I stripped before I went from my hut, having nothing on but a checked shirt and a pair of linen trousers, and a pair of pumps on my feet.

I got on board the ship as before, and prepared a second raft; and having had experience of the first, I neither made this so unwieldy, nor loaded it so hard, but yet I brought away several things very useful to me; as first, in the carpenter's stores, I found two or three bags full of nails, a great screw-jack, a dozen hatchets, and, above all, that most useful thing called a grindstone. These I secured, together with several things belonging to the gunner, particularly two or three iron crows, and two barrels of musket-bullets, seven muskets, and another fowling-piece, with some small quantity of powder more; a large bag full of small shot, and a great roll of sheet lead; but this last was so heavy I could not hoist it up over the ship's side.

Besides these things, I took all the men's clothes that I could find, and a spare foretop-sail, hammock, and some bedding; and with this I loaded my second raft, and brought them all safe on shore, to my very great comfort.

I was under some apprehensions during my absence from the land, that my provisions might be devoured on shore; but, when I came back, I found no sign of any visitor, only there sat a creature, like a wild cat, upon one of the chests, which, when I came towards it, ran away a little distance, and then stood still: she sat very composed and unconcerned, and looked full in my face, as if she had a mind to be acquainted with me. I presented my gun at her, but as she did not understand it, she was perfectly unconcerned at it, nor did she offer to stir away;

upon which I tossed her a bit of biscuit, though, by the way, I was not very free of it, for my store was not great: however, I spared her a bit, I say, and she went to it, smelled of it, and ate it, and looked, as pleased, for more; but I thanked her, and could spare no more—so she marched off.

Having got my second cargo on shore, I went to work to make me a little tent, with the sail and some poles which I cut for that purpose; and into this tent I brought everything that I knew would spoil either with rain or sun, piling all the empty chests and casks up in a circle round the tent, to fortify it from any sudden attempt, either from man or beast.

When I had done this, I blocked up the door of the tent with some boards within, and an empty chest set up on end without, and, spreading one of the beds upon the ground, laying my two pistols just at my head, and my gun at length by me, I went to bed for the first time, and slept very quietly all night, for I was very weary, as the night before I had slept little, and had laboured very hard all day to fetch all those things from the ship and get them on shore.

I had the biggest magazine of all kinds now that ever was laid up, I believe, for one man, but I was not satisfied still; for, while the ship sat upright in that posture, I thought I ought to get everything out of her that I could: so every day, at low water, I went on board, and brought away something or other, particularly as much of the rigging as I could, as also all the small ropes and rope-twine I could get, with a piece of spare canvas, which was to mend the sails upon occasion, and the barrel of wet gunpowder. I brought away all the sails by cutting them in pieces, and bringing as much at a time as I could; for they were no more useful to be sails, but as mere canvas only.

But that which comforted me more still, was, that last of all, after I had made five or six such voyages as these, and thought I had nothing more to expect from the ship, I found a great hogshead of bread, three large runlets of rum or spirits, a box of sugar, and a barrel of fine flour. This was the more surprising to me, because I had given over expecting any more provisions, except what was spoiled by the water. I soon emptied the hogshead of

that bread, and wrapped it up, parcel by parcel, in pieces of the sails, which I got safe on shore also.

The next day I made another voyage; and now, having plundered the ship of what was portable, I began upon the cables. Cutting the great cable into pieces, such as I could move, I got two cables and a hawser on shore, with all the iron-work I could get; and having cut down the spritsail-yard, the mizen-yard and everything I could, to make a large raft, I loaded it with all those heavy goods, and came away. My good luck began now to leave me; for this raft was so unwieldy and overladen, that, after I had entered the little cove, where I had landed the rest of my goods, not being able to guide it so handily as I did the others, it overset, and threw me and all my cargo into the water. As for myself, it was no great harm, for I was near the shore; but my cargo was, a great part of it, lost, especially the iron, which I expected would have been of great use to me: however, when the tide was out, I got most of the pieces of cable ashore, and some of the iron, though with infinite labour. After this, I went every day on board, and brought away what I could get.

I had been now thirteen days on shore, and had been eleven times on board the ship; in which time I had brought away all that one pair of hands could well be supposed capable to bring, though I believe verily, had the calm held, I should have brought away the whole ship, piece by piece: but, preparing the twelfth time to go on board, I found the wind began to rise; however, at low water, I went on board, and though I thought I had rummaged the cabin so effectually as that nothing more could be found, yet I discovered a locker with drawers in it, in one of which I found two or three razors, and one pair of large scissors, with some ten or a dozen of good knives and forks; in another I found about thirty-six pounds value in money, some European coin, some Brazil, some pieces of eight, some gold, some silver.

I smiled to myself at the sight of this money. "O drug!" said I, aloud, "what art thou good for? thou art not worth to me—no, not the taking off of the ground; one of those knives is worth all this heap; I have no manner of use for thee; even remain where thou art, and go to the bottom as a creature whose life is not worth saving." However, upon second thoughts, I took it away, and, wrap-

ping all this in a piece of canvas, I began to think of making another raft; but, while I was preparing this, I found the sky overcast, and the wind began to rise, and in a quarter of an hour it blew a fresh gale from the shore. It presently occurred to me that it was my business to be gone before the tide of flood began, otherwise I might not be able to reach the shore at all: accordingly, I let myself down into the water, and swam across the channel which lay between the ship and the sands, and even that with difficulty enough, partly with the weight of things I had about me, and partly the roughness of the water, for the wind rose very hastily, and, before it was quite high water, it blew a storm.

But I was home in my little tent, where I lay with all my wealth about me very secure. It blew very hard all that night, and in the morning when I looked out, behold no more ship was to be seen! I was a little surprised, but recovered myself with the satisfactory reflection that I had lost no time to get everything out of her that could be useful to me, and that indeed there was little left in her that I was able to bring away, if I had had more time.

My thoughts were now wholly employed about securing myself against either savages, or wild beasts, if any were on the island; and I had many thoughts of the method how to do this, and what kind of dwelling to make—whether I should make me a cave in the earth, or a tent upon it, and I resolved upon both, the manner and description of which it may not be improper to give an account of.

I soon found the place I was in was not for my settlement, partly because it was upon a low moorish ground near the sea, which I believe would not be wholesome, and more particularly because there was no fresh water near it; so I resolved to find a more healthy and convenient spot of ground.

I consulted several things in my situation which I thought would be proper for me—Firstly, health and fresh water, as I just now mentioned; secondly, shelter from the heat of the sun; thirdly, security from ravenous creatures, whether man or beast, and fourthly, a view of the sea, that, if God send any ship in sight, I might not lose any advantage for my deliverance, of which I was not willing to banish all expectation.

In search of a place proper for this, I found a little plain on the side of a rising hill, whose front was steep as a house-side, so that nothing could come down upon me from the top: on the side of this rock there was a hollow place worn a little way in, like the entrance or door of a cave, but there was not really any cave or way into the rock at all.

On the flat of the green, just before this hollow place, I resolved to pitch my tent: this plain was not above an hundred yards broad, and about twice as long, and lay like a green before my door, and at the end of it descended irregularly every way down into the low grounds by the sea-side. It was on the north-north-west side of the hill, so that I was sheltered from the heat every day, till it came to a west-and-by-south sun, or thereabouts, which in those countries is near the setting.

Before I set up my tent, I drew a half circle before the hollow place which took in about ten yards in its semi-diameter from the rock, and twenty yards in its diameter, from its beginning and ending.

In this half circle I pitched two rows of strong stakes, driving them into the ground till they stood very firm, like piles, the biggest end being out of the ground about five feet and a half, and sharpened on the top: the two rows standing about six inches from one another.

Then I took the pieces of cable which I had cut in the ship, and laid them in rows, one upon another, within the circle between these two rows of stakes up to the top, placing other stakes on the inside, leaning against them, about two feet and a half high, like a spur to a post; and this fence was so strong that neither man nor beast could get into it, or over it: this cost me a great deal of time and labour, especially to cut the piles in the woods, bring them to the place, and drive them into the earth.

The entrance into this place I made to be, not by a door, but by a short ladder, to go over the top; which ladder, when I was in, I lifted over after me: and so I was completely fenced in, and fortified, as I thought, from all the world, and consequently slept secure in the night, which otherwise I could not have done; though as it appeared afterward, there was no need of all this caution as to the enemies from which I apprehended danger.

Into this fence, or fortress, with infinite labour, I carried

all my riches, provisions, ammunition, and stores, of which you have the account above; and I made me a large tent, which, to preserve me from the rains, that in one part of the year are very violent there, I made double, namely, one smaller tent within, and one larger tent above it, and covered the uppermost with a large tarpaulin, which I had saved among the sails.

And now I lay no more, for a while, in the bed which I had brought on shore, but in a hammock, which was, indeed, a very good one, and belonged to the mate of the ship.

Into this tent I brought all my provisions, and everything that would spoil by the wet; and having thus enclosed all my goods, I made up the entrance, which, till now, I had left open, and so passed and repassed, as I said, by a short ladder.

When I had done this, I began to work my way into the rock, and, bringing all the earth and stones that I dug down, out through my tent, I laid them up within my fence in the nature of a terrace, so that it raised the ground within about a foot and a half; and thus I made me a cave just behind my tent, which served me like a cellar to my house.

It cost me much labour and many days before all these things were brought to perfection: and, therefore, I must go back to some other things which took up some of my thoughts. At the same time, it happened, after I had laid my scheme for the setting up of my tent, and making the cave, that a storm of rain falling from a thick dark cloud, a sudden flash of lightning happened, and after that a great clap of thunder, as is naturally the effect of it. I was not so much surprised with the lightning as I was with a thought which darted into my mind, as swift as the lightning itself: My powder! my very heart sank within me, when I thought that, at one blast, all my powder might be destroyed, on which, not my defence only, but the providing me food, as I thought, entirely depended: I was nothing near so anxious about my own danger, though, had the powder took fire, I should never have known who had hurt me.

Such impression did this make upon me, that after the storm was over, I laid aside all my works, my building and fortifying, and applied myself to make bags and boxes,

to separate the powder, and to keep it in small parcels, in the hope that, whatever might come, it might not all take fire at once, and to keep it so apart, that it should not be possible to make one part fire another. I finished this work in about a fortnight; and I think my powder, which, in all, was about two hundred and forty pounds weight, was divided in not less than a hundred parcels. As to the barrel that had been wet, I did not apprehend any danger from that, so I placed it in my new cave, which, in my fancy, I called my kitchen; and the rest I hid up and down in holes among the rocks, so that no wet might come to it, marking very carefully where I laid it.

In the interval of time while this was doing, I went out once at least every day with my gun, as well to divert myself as to see if I could kill anything fit for food, and to acquaint myself with the island. The first time I went out I killed a she-goat, which had a little kid by her which, when the old one fell, stood stock still by her till I came and took her up; and not only so, but, when I carried the old one with me upon my shoulders, the kid followed me quite to my enclosure; upon which I laid down the dam, and took the kid in my arms, and carried it over my pale, in hopes to have bred it up tame; but it would not eat, so I was forced to kill it, and eat it myself. These two supplied me with flesh a great while, for I ate sparingly, and saved my provisions (my bread especially) as much as possibly I could.

Having now fixed my habitation, I found it absolutely necessary to provide a place to make a fire in, and fuel to burn, for I considered, from the beginning, how I should provide for the time that was to come, not only after my ammunition should be spent, but even after my health and strength should decay.

It was, by my account, the 30th of September, when, in the manner as above said, I first set foot upon this horrid island. The sun being, to us, in its autumnal equinox, was almost just over my head; for I reckoned myself, by observation, to be in the latitude of nine degrees twenty-two minutes, north of the Line.

After I had been there about ten or twelve days, it came into my thoughts, that I should lose my reckoning of time for want of books, and pen and ink, and should even forget

the Sabbath days from the working days; but, to prevent this, I cut it with my knife upon a large post in capital letters, and making it into a great cross, I set it up on the shore where I first landed, namely, I came on shore here on the 30th of September, 1659. Upon the sides of this square post, I cut every day a notch with my knife, and every seventh notch was as long again as the rest, and every first day of the month as long again as that one; and thus I kept my calendar, or reckoning of time.

Among the many things which I brought out of the ship in the several voyages, which, as above mentioned, I made to it, I got several things of less value, but not at all less useful to me, which I omitted setting down before; as, in particular, pens, ink, and paper, several parcels in the captain's, mate's, gunner's, and carpenter's keeping, three or four compasses, some mathematical instruments, dials, perspectives, charts, and books of navigation, all which I huddled together, whether I might want them or no. Also, I found three very good Bibles, which came to me in my cargo from England, and which I had packed up among my things; some Portuguese books also, and among them two or three Popish prayer-books, and several other books: all of which I carefully secured. And I must not forget that we had in the ship a dog and two cats, of whose eminent history I may have occasion to say something in its place; for I carried both the cats with me: and as for the dog, he jumped out of the ship of himself, and swam on shore to me the day after I went on shore with my first cargo, and was a trusty servant to me for many years: I wanted nothing that he could fetch me, nor any company that he could make up to me—I only wanted to have him talk to me; but that he could not do. As I observed before, I found pen, ink, and paper, and I husbanded them to the utmost; and I shall show, that while my ink lasted, I kept things very exact; but after that was gone I could not, for I could not make any ink by any means that I could devise.

And this put me in mind that I wanted many things, notwithstanding all that I had amassed together; and of these, this of ink was one, as also spade, pick-axe, and shovel, to dig or remove the earth; needles, pins, and thread. As for linen, I soon learnt to want that without much difficulty.

This want of tools made every work I did go on heavily, and it was nearly a year before I had entirely finished my little habitation: the piles, or stakes, which were as heavy as I could well lift, were a long time in cutting and preparing in the woods, and more by far in bringing home; so that I spent sometimes two days in cutting and bringing back one of those posts, and a third day in driving it into the ground; for which purpose I got a heavy piece of wood at first, but at last bethought myself of one of the iron crows, which, however, made driving those posts very laborious and tedious work.

I now began to consider seriously my condition, and I drew up the state of my affairs in writing, not so much to leave them to any that were to come after me (for I was like to have but few heirs), as to deliver my thoughts from daily poring upon them, and afflicting my mind. My reason having mastered my despondency, I began to apply myself to accommodate my way of living, and to make things as easy to me as I could.

I have already described my habitation, which was a tent, under the side of a rock surrounded with a strong pale of posts and cables; but I might now rather call it a wall, for I raised a kind of wall up against it of turfs, about two feet thick on the outside; and after some time —I think it was a year and a half—I raised rafters from it, leaning to the rock, and thatched it with boughs of trees, and such things as I could get to keep out the rain, which I found at some times of the year very violent.

I have already observed how I brought all my goods into this pale, and into the cave which I had made behind me: but I must observe, too, that at first this was a confused heap of goods which took up all my place: I had no room to turn myself, so I set myself to enlarge my cave and works farther into the earth. It was a loose sandy rock, which yielded easily to the labour I bestowed on it—and so, when I found I was pretty safe as to beasts of prey, I worked sideways to the right hand into the rock: and then, turning to the right again, worked quite out, and made me a door to come out, on the outside of my pale, or fortification.

This gave me not only egress and ingress, as it were a back way to my tent and to my storehouse, but gave me room to stow my goods.

And now I began to make such things as I found I most wanted, particularly a chair and a table ; for without these I could not write or eat or do several things, with much pleasure.

So I went to work ; and here I must needs observe, that as reason is the substance and original of the mathematics, so, by stating and squaring everything by reason, and by making the most rational judgment of things, every man may be in time master of every mechanic art. I had never handled a tool in my life, and yet in time, by labour, application, and contrivance, I found at last that I wanted nothing but I could have made it, especially if I had had tools. However, I made abundance of things even without tools, and some with no more tools than an adze and a hatchet, which, perhaps, were never made that way before, and that with infinite labour—for example, if I wanted a board, I had no other way but to cut down a tree, set it on an edge before me, and hew it flat on either side with my axe, till I had brought it to be as thin as a plank, and then dub it smooth with my adze. It is true, by this method I could make but one board out of a whole tree ; but this I had no remedy for but patience, any more than I had for the prodigious deal of time and labour which it took me up to make a plank or board ; but my time and labour were little worth, and so they were as well employed one way as another.

However, I made me a table and a chair out of the short pieces of boards that I brought on my raft from the ship : but, when I had wrought out some boards as above, I made large shelves of the breadth of a foot and a half, one over another, all along one side of my cave, to lay all my tools, nails, and iron-work, and, in a word, to separate everything at large in their places, that I might come easily at them. I knocked pieces into the wall of the rock to hang my guns, and all things that would hang up.

So that, had my cave been seen, it looked like a general magazine of all necessary things ; and I had everything so ready to my hand, that it was a great pleasure to me to see all my goods in such order, and especially to find my stock of all necessaries so great.

And now it was that I began to keep a journal of every day's employment ; for indeed at first I was in too much

discomposure of mind, and my journal would have been full of many dull things.

Even after I had been on board the ship, and got all that I could out of her, yet I could not forbear getting up to the top of a little mountain, and looking out to sea, in hopes of seeing a ship; and then, after looking steadily till I was almost blind, sit down and weep like a child, thus increasing my misery by my folly.

But having got over these things in some measure, and settled my household stuff and made all as handsome about me as I could, I began to keep my journal, of which I shall here give you the copy (though in it will be told all these particulars over again), as long as it lasted; for, having no more ink, I was forced to leave it off.

CHAPTER V

THE JOURNAL

September 30, 1659.

I, POOR miserable Robinson Crusoe, being shipwrecked during a dreadful storm in the offing, came on shore on this dismal unfortunate island, which I called the Island of Despair; all the rest of the ship's company being drowned, and myself almost dead.

All the rest of that day I spent in afflicting myself at the dismal circumstances I was brought to, namely I had neither food, house, clothes, weapon, nor place to fly to and in despair of any relief, saw nothing but death before me, either that I should be devoured by wild beasts, murdered by savages, or starved to death for want of food. At the approach of night I slept in a tree, for fear of wild creatures, but slept soundly, though it rained all night.

October 1.—In the morning I saw, to my great surprise, the ship had floated with the high tide, and was driven on shore again much nearer the island. I hoped, if the wind abated, I might get on board, and get some food and necessaries out of her for my relief; so, seeing the ship almost dry, I went upon the sand as near as I could, and then swam on board. This day also continued raining. though with no wind at all.

From the 1st of October to the 24th.—All these days entirely spent in many voyages to get all I could out of the ship, which I brought on shore, every flood tide, upon rafts. Much rain also in these days, though with some intervals of fair weather; but it seems this was the rainy season.

Oct. 20.—I overset my raft, and all the goods I had got upon it; but being in shoal water, and the things being chiefly heavy, I recovered many of them when the tide was out.

Oct. 25.—It rained all night and all day, with some gusts of wind; during which time the ship broke in pieces, the wind blowing a little harder than before, and was no more to be seen except the wreck of her, and that only at low water. I spent this day in covering and securing the goods which I had saved, that rain might not spoil them.

Oct. 26.—I walked about the shore almost all day, to find out a place to fix my habitation, greatly concerned to secure myself from any attack in the night, either from wild beasts or men. Towards night I fixed upon a proper place under a rock, and marked out a semicircle for my encampment, which I resolved to strengthen with a wall, or fortification, made of double piles, lined within with cable, and without with turf.

From the 26th to the 30th I worked very hard in carrying all my goods to my new habitation, though some part of the time it rained exceedingly hard.

The 31st, in the morning, I went out into the island with my gun, to seek for some food, and discover the country; when I killed a she-goat, and her kid followed me home, which I afterwards killed also, because it would not feed.

November 1.—I set up my tent under a rock, and lay there for the first night, making it as large as I could with stakes driven in to swing my hammock upon.

Nov. 2.—I set up all my chests and boards, and the pieces of timber, which made my rafts, and with them formed a fence round me, a little within the place I had marked out for my fortification.

Nov. 3.—I went out with my gun, and killed two fowls like ducks, which were very good food. In the afternoon, went to work to make me a table.

Nov. 4.—This morning I began to order my times of work—of going out with my gun, of sleep, and of diversion. Every morning I walked out with my gun for two or three hours, if it did not rain, then employed myself to work till about eleven o'clock, then ate what I had to live on, and from twelve till two I lay down to sleep, the weather being excessively hot, and then in the evening to work again. The working part of this day and of the next were wholly employed in making my table, for I was yet but a very sorry workman, though time and necessity made me a complete mechanic soon after, as I believe they would do anyone else.

Nov. 5.—This day went abroad with my gun and my dog, and killed a wild cat; her skin pretty soft, but her flesh good for nothing: every creature I killed I took off the skins, and preserved them.

Nov. 6.—I went to work with my table again, and finished it, though not to my liking; nor was it long before I learned to mend it.

Nov. 7.—The 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, and part of the 12th (for the 11th was Sunday), I took wholly up to make me a chair, and with much ado, brought it to a tolerable shape, but never to please me.

Nov. 13.—This day it rained, which refreshed me exceedingly, and cooled the earth; but was accompanied with terrible thunder and lightning, which frightened me dreadfully for fear of my powder. As soon as it was over, I resolved to separate my stock of powder into as many little parcels as possible, that it might not be in danger.

Nov. 14, 15, 16.—These three days I spent in making little square chests or boxes, which might hold about a pound, or two pound at most, of powder; and putting the powder in, I stowed it in places as secure and remote from one another as possible.

Nov. 17.—This day I began to dig behind my tent into the rock, to make room for my farther convenience. Three things I wanted exceedingly for this work, namely, a pick-axe, a shovel, and a wheelbarrow or basket; so I desisted from my work, and began to consider how to supply that want, and make me some tools. For a pick-axe, I made use of the iron crows, but the next thing was a shovel or spade. This was so absolutely necessary,

I fitted up a little mast to my boat . . .

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that indeed I could do nothing effectually without it, but what kind of one to make I knew not.

Nov. 18.—The next day, in searching the woods, I found a tree of that wood, or like it, which in the Brazils they call the iron tree, for its exceeding hardness: of this, with great labour, and almost spoiling my axe, I cut a piece, and brought it home with difficulty, for it was exceeding heavy.

The excessive hardness of the wood made me a long while upon this machine; for I worked it effectually by little and little into the form of a shovel or spade, the handle exactly shaped like ours in England, only that the broad part having no iron shod upon it at bottom, it would not last me so long. It served well enough for the uses which I had occasion to put it to; but never was a shovel, I believe, so long a-making.

I still wanted a basket or a wheelbarrow: but these I could not make by any means; and so, for carrying away the earth which I dug out of the cave, I made me a thing like a hod, which the labourers carry mortar in when they serve the bricklayers.

Nov. 23.—My other work having now stood still, because of my making these tools, when they were finished I went on, and working every day, as my strength and time allowed, I spent eighteen days entirely in widening and deepening my cave, when on a sudden (it seems I had made it too large) a great quantity of earth fell down from the top and one side, so much, that it frighted me, and not without reason too; for if I had been under it, I had never wanted a gravedigger. Upon this disaster I had a great deal of work to do over again; for I had the loose earth to carry out, and, which was of more importance, I had the ceiling to prop up, so that I might be sure no more would come down.

Dec. 11.—This day I went to work with it accordingly, and got two shores or posts pitched upright to the top, with two pieces of boards across over each post; this I finished the next day; and setting more posts up with boards, in about a week more I had the roof secured; and the posts standing in rows, served me for partitions to part off my house.

Dec. 17.—From this day to the 20th I placed shelves, and knocked up nails on the posts to hang everything

up that could be hung up; and now I began to be in some order within doors.

Dec. 20.—Now I carried everything into the cave, and began to furnish my house, and set up some pieces of boards like a dresser, to order my victuals upon; also, I made me another table.

Dec. 27.—Killed a young goat, and lamed another, so that I caught it, and led it home in a string. When I had it home, I bound and splintered up its leg, which was broke. I took care of it, and the leg grew well and as strong as ever; but by nursing it so long it grew tame, and fed upon the little green at my door, and would not go away. This was the first time that I entertained a thought of breeding up some tame creatures, that I might have food when my powder and shot are all spent.

Dec. 28, 29, 30.—Great heats, and no breeze; so that there was no stirring abroad, except in the evening, for food. This time I spent in putting all my things in order within doors.

January 1.—Very hot still: but I went abroad early and late with my gun, and lay still in the middle of the day. This evening, going farther into the valleys which lay towards the centre of the island, I found there plenty of goats, and resolved to bring my dog to hunt them down.

Accordingly, the next day I set him upon the goats; but I was mistaken, for they all faced about upon the dog; and he would not come near them.

Jan. 3.—I began my fence, or wall, which I resolved to make very thick and strong.

During this time I made my rounds in the woods for game every day, when the rain permitted me, and I found a kind of wild pigeon, who built in the holes of the rocks, and, discovering their nests, got their young ones, which were very good meat.

And now, in the managing my household affairs, I found myself wanting in many things, which I thought at first it was impossible for me to obtain, but it happened that, rummaging my things, I found a little bag, which, as I hinted before, had been filled with corn for the feeding of poultry, not for this voyage, but when the ship came from Lisbon. What little remainder of corn had been in the bag was all devoured by the rats, and I saw nothing in the bag but husks and dust; and being willing to have

the bag for some other use—I think it was to put powder in, or some such use—I shook the husks of corn out of it, on one side of my fortification, under the rock.

It was a little before the great rains, just now mentioned, that I threw this stuff away, not so much as remembering that I had thrown anything there; when about a month after I saw some few stalks of something green shooting out of the ground, which I fancied might be some plant I had not seen; but I was surprised and perfectly astonished, when, after a little longer time, I saw about ten or twelve ears come out, which were perfectly green barley, of the same kind as our English barley.

I thought these the pure productions of Providence for my support, and, not doubting but that there was more in the place, I went all over that part of the island where I had been before to seek for more of it, but I could not find any. At last, it occurred to my thought, that I had shaken a bag of chickens' meal out in that place, and then the wonder began to cease, though I ought to have been as thankful for so strange and unforeseen a providence, as if it had been miraculous; for it was really the work of Providence that should order ten or twelve grains of corn to remain unspoiled, when the rats had destroyed all the rest, also, that I should throw it out in that particular place, where, it being in the shade of a high rock, it sprang up immediately; whereas, if I had thrown it anywhere else at that time, it had been burnt up and destroyed.

I carefully saved the ears of corn, you may be sure, in their season, which was about the end of June, and laying up every corn, I resolved to sow them all again, hoping in time to have some quantity sufficient to supply me with bread; but it was not till the fourth year that I could allow myself the least grain of this corn to eat, and even then but sparingly—for I lost all that I sowed the first season, by not observing the proper time—as I sowed it just before the dry season, so that it never came up at all.

Besides this barley, there were, as above, twenty or thirty stalks of rice, which I preserved with the same care, and whose use was to the same purpose, namely, to make me bread, or rather food; for I found ways to cook it up without baking, though I did that also after some time. But to return to my journal.

I worked excessively hard these three or four months to get my wall done; and on the 14th of April I closed it up, contriving to go into it, not by a door, but over the wall by a ladder, that there might be no sign in the outside of my habitation.

April 16.—I finished the ladder; so I went up with it to the top, pulled it up after me, and let it down in the inside. This made a complete enclosure; for within I had room enough, and nothing could come at me from without, unless it could first mount my wall.

The very next day after this wall was finished, I had almost had all my labour overthrown at once, and myself killed. As I was busy behind my tent, just in the entrance into my cave, the earth came crumbling down from the roof of my cave, and from the edge of the hill, over my head, and two of the posts I had set up in the cave cracked in a frightful manner. I was heartily scared, for I plainly saw that it was a terrible earthquake. The ground I stood on shook three times at about eight minutes' distance, with such shocks, as would have overturned the strongest building that could be supposed to have stood on the earth; and a great piece of rock, which stood about half a mile from me, next the sea, fell down with such a terrible noise as I never heard in all my life.

I was so amazed with the thing itself, having never felt the like, or discoursed with anyone that had, that I was like one dead; but the noise of the falling of the rock, rousing me from the stupefied condition I was in, filled me with horror, and I thought of nothing then but the hill falling upon my tent and burying all at once; and thus sank my very soul within me a second time.

After the third shock was over, and I felt no more for some time, I began to take courage; and yet I had not heart enough to get over my wall again, for fear of being buried alive, but sat still, not knowing what to do. After I had been in my cave some time, and found still no more shocks of the earthquake follow, I began to be more composed; and now, I began to think of what I had best do, concluding, that if the island was subject to these earthquakes, there would be no living for me in a cave, but I must consider building me some little hut in an open place, which I might surround with a wall as I had done here, and so make myself secure from wild beasts or men;

but concluded, if I stayed where I was, I should certainly, one time or other, be buried alive.

With this resolution, I composed myself for a time, and resolved that I would go to work with all speed, to build me a wall with piles and cables, etc., in a circle, as before, and set my tent up in it when it was finished; but that I would venture to stay where I was till it was finished, and fit to remove to. This was the 21st.

April 22.—The next morning I began to consider means of putting this resolve in execution, but was at a great loss about my tools. I had three large axes, and abundance of hatchets (for we carried the hatchets for traffic with the Indians); but, with much chopping and cutting knotty hard wood, they were all full of notches and dull; and, though I had a grindstone, I could not turn it, and grind my tools too; this cost me as much thought as a statesman would have bestowed upon a grand point of politics, or a judge upon the life and death of a man. At length I contrived a wheel with a string, which I could turn with my foot, that I might have both my hands at liberty.

April 28, 29.—These two whole days I took up in grinding my tools, my machine for turning my grindstone performing very well.

April 30.—Having perceived that my bread had been low a great while, I reduced myself to one biscuit-cake a day, which made my heart very heavy.

CHAPTER VI

SALVAGE FROM THE WRECKED SHIP—ROBINSON'S SICKNESS AND RECOVERY

May 1.—In the morning, looking towards the sea I saw something lie on the shore bigger than ordinary, and it looked like a cask. When I came to it, I found a small barrel, and two or three pieces of the wreck of the ship, which had been driven on shore by the late hurricane. I examined the barrel which was on shore, and soon found it was a barrel of gunpowder, but it had taken water, and the powder was caked as hard as a stone; however, I rolled it farther upon the sands and went as near as I could to the wreck of the ship, to look for more.

When I came down to the ship, I found the forecastle was heaved up at least six feet; and the stern (which was broke to pieces, and parted from the rest by the force of the sea, soon after I had left rummaging her) was tossed, as it were, up, and cast on one side; and the sand was thrown so high on that side next her stern, that I could now walk quite up to her when the tide was out. I soon concluded that this must have been done by the earthquake, and I busied myself mightily, that day especially, in searching whether I could make any way into the ship; but found that all the inside of the ship was choked up with sand; however, I resolved to pull everything to pieces that I could of the ship, concluding, that everything I could get from her would be of some use or other to me.

May 3.—I began with my saw, and cut a piece of a beam through, which I thought held some of the upper part or quarter-deck together, and when I had cut it through, I cleared away the sand as well as I could from the side which lay highest; but the tide coming in, I was obliged to give over for that time.

May 4.—I went a-fishing, but caught not one fish, till I was just going to leave off, when I caught a young dolphin. I had made me a long line of some rope yarn, but I had no hooks, yet I frequently caught fish enough, which I dried in the sun, and ate them dry.

May 5.—Worked on the wreck and brought three great fir planks off from the decks, which I tied together, and made swim on shore when the flood tide came in.

May 6 to 24.—Every day to this day I worked on the wreck, and, with hard labour, I loosened some things so much with the crowbar that the first flowing tide several casks floated out, and two of the seamen's chests; but the wind blowing from the shore, nothing came to land that day but pieces of timber.

I continued this work every day to the 15th of June, except the time necessary to get food, which I always appointed to be when the tide was up, that I might be ready when it was ebbed out; and by this time I had timber and iron work enough to have built a good boat, if I had known how; and also I got at several times, and in several pieces, near one hundredweight of the sheet lead.

June 16.—Going down to the sea edge, I found a large tortoise or turtle. This was the first that I had seen, which it seems was only my misfortune, not any defect of the place, or scarcity; for had I happened to be on the other side of the island, I might have had hundreds of them every day, as I found afterwards, but perhaps had paid dear enough for them.

June 17th I spent in cooking the turtle, and found its flesh the most savoury and pleasant that ever I tasted, having had no flesh but of goats and fowls since I landed in this horrid place.

June 18.—Rained all day, and I stayed within. I thought at this time the rain felt cold, and I was something chilly, which I knew was not usual in that latitude.

June 19.—Very ill, and shivering, as if the weather had been cold.

June 20.—No rest all night, violent pains in my head, and feverish.

June 21.—Very ill, frightened almost to death with the apprehensions of my sad condition, to be sick, and no help. Prayed to God, for the first time since the storm off Hull; but scarce knew what I said, or why, my thoughts being all confused.

June 22.—A little better, but under dreadful apprehensions of sickness.

June 23.—Very bad again, cold and shivering, and then a violent headache.

June 24.—Much better.

June 25.—An ague very violent; the fit held me seven hours, cold fit and hot, with faint sweats after it.

June 26.—Better; and, having no victuals to eat, took my gun, but found myself very weak; however, I killed a she-goat, and with much difficulty got it home, and broiled some of it, and ate; I would fain have stewed it, and made some broth, but had no pot.

June 27.—The ague again so violent that I lay a-bed all day, and neither ate nor drank. I was ready to perish for thirst, but so weak I had not strength to stand up, or to get myself any water to drink. Prayed to God again, but was light-headed; and when I was not, I was so ignorant that I knew not what to say, only I lay, and cried, "Lord, look upon me! Lord, pity me! Lord, have mercy upon me!" till, the fit wearing off, I fell asleep, and when

I waked, I found myself much refreshed, but weak, and exceedingly thirsty; however, as I had no water in my whole habitation, I was forced to lie till morning, and went to sleep again.

I had, alas! no divine knowledge. What I had received by the good instruction of my father was then worn out by eight years of seafaring, and I do not remember that I had, in all that time, one thought that tended either to looking upwards towards God, or inwards towards a reflection upon my own ways.

The growing up of the corn had at first some little influence upon me as long as I thought it had something miraculous in it; but as soon as ever that part of thought was removed, all the impression which was raised from it wore off also.

Even the earthquake, though nothing could be more terrible in its nature, was no sooner over than the impression it had made went off also.

But now, when I began to be sick, and nature was exhausted with the violence of the fever, conscience, that had slept so long, began to awake, and I began to reproach myself with my past life, in which I had so evidently, by uncommon wickedness, provoked the justice of God to deal with me in so vindictive a manner.

These reflections oppressed me from the second or third day of the fever, and the horror of dying in such a miserable condition raised vapours into my head with the mere apprehensions.

"Now," said I aloud, "my dear father's words are come to pass: God's justice has overtaken me, and I have none to help or hear me. Then I cried out, "Lord, be my help; for I am in great distress!"

This was the first prayer that I made for many years. But I return to my journal.

June 28.—Having been somewhat refreshed with the sleep I had had, I rose and filled a large square case-bottle with water, and set it upon my table in reach of my bed; and I put about a quarter of a pint of rum into it, and mixed them together; then I got me a piece of the goat's flesh, and broiled it on the coals, but could eat very little. I walked about, but was very weak, and heavy-hearted, dreading the return of my distemper the next day. Now it occurred to my thought that the Brazilians take no

physic but their tobacco for almost all distempers; and I had a piece of a roll of tobacco in one of the chests, which was quite cured, and some also that was green, and not quite cured.

I went, directed by Heaven, no doubt; for in this chest I found a cure both for soul and body. I opened the chest, and found what I had looked for, namely, the tobacco; and as the few books I had saved lay there too, I took out one of the Bibles, which I mentioned before, and which, to this time, I had not found leisure, or so much as inclination, to look into—I say, I took it out and brought both that and the tobacco with me to the table.

What use to make of the tobacco I knew not, as to my distemper, or whether it was good for it or no; but I tried several experiments with it, as if I was resolved it should hit one way or other. I first took a piece of a leaf, and chewed it in my mouth, which indeed, at first, almost stupefied my brain, the tobacco being green and strong, and I had not been much used to it; then I took some, and steeped it an hour or two in some rum, and resolved to take a dose of it when I lay down; and, lastly, I burnt some upon a pan of coals, and held my nose close over the smoke of it, as long as I could bear it, as well for the heat as the virtue of it, and I held almost to suffocation.

In the interval of this operation, I took up the Bible, and began to read; but my head was too much disturbed with the tobacco to bear reading at that time; only, having opened the book casually, the first words that occurred to me were these—"Call on me in the day of trouble, and I will deliver thee; and thou shalt glorify me."

The words were very apt to my case, and made a very great impression upon me while I mused upon them. It grew late and I inclined to sleep, so I left my lamp burning in the cave, lest I should want anything in the night, and went to bed. But before I lay down, I kneeled down, and prayed to God to fulfil the promise to me, that, if I called upon him in the day of trouble, he would deliver me. After my broken and imperfect prayer was over, I drank the rum, in which I had steeped the tobacco, which was so strong and rank of the tobacco, that indeed I could scarce get it down. Immediately upon this, I went to bed, and found presently it flew up into my head violently; but I fell into a sound sleep, and waked no

more, till, by the sun, it must necessarily be near three o'clock in the afternoon the next day. When I awaked, I found myself exceedingly refreshed, and my spirits lively and cheerful. I was hungry, and I had no pain the next day, but continued much altered for the better: this was the 29th.

On the 30th I went abroad with my gun, but did not care to travel too far. I killed a sea-fowl or two, something like a brand goose, and brought them home, but was not very forward to eat them; so I ate some turtle's eggs, which were very good. This evening I renewed the medicine, which I had supposed did me good the day before, namely, the tobacco steeped in rum; only, I did not take so much as before, nor did I chew any of the leaf, or hold my head over the smoke; however, I was not so well the next day, which was the 1st of July, as I hoped I should have been.

July 2.—I renewed the medicine all the three ways, and dosed myself with it as at first, doubling the quantity which I drank.

July 3.—I missed the fit for good and all, though I did not recover my full strength for some weeks after. While I was thus gathering strength, my thoughts ran exceedingly upon this Scripture, "I will deliver thee;" so in the morning I took the Bible; and, beginning at the New Testament, read a while every morning and every night, not tying myself to the number of chapters, but as long as my thoughts should engage me. It was not long after I set seriously to this work, but I found my heart deeply affected by the wickedness of my past life.

I began to construe the words, "Call on me, and I will deliver thee," in a different sense from what I had ever done before; for then I had no notion of anything being called deliverance, but my being delivered from the captivity I was in: but now I learnt to take it in another sense. Now I looked back on my past life with horror, and my soul sought nothing of God but deliverance from the load of guilt that bore down all my comfort.

My condition began now to be, though not less miserable as to my way of living, yet much easier to my mind; and my thoughts being directed, by a constant reading of the Scripture and praying to God, to things of a higher nature, I had a great deal of comfort within, which till

now I knew nothing of: also, as my health and strength returned, I bestirred myself to furnish myself with everything that I wanted, and make my way of living as regular as I could.

CHAPTER VII

ROBINSON EXPLORES HIS ISLAND HOME

It was upon the 15th of July that I began to take a more particular survey of the island itself. I went up the creek first, where, as I hinted, I brought my rafts on shore. I found, after I came about two miles up, that the tide did not flow any higher, and that it was no more than a little brook of running water, very fresh and good; but this being the dry season, there was hardly any water in some parts of it.

On the banks of this brook I found many pleasant meadows, plain, smooth, and covered with grass; and on the rising parts of them, next to the higher grounds (where the water, as it might be supposed, never overflowed), I found a great deal of tobacco, green, and growing to a great and very strong stalk; there were divers other plants, which might perhaps have virtues of their own that I could not find out.

I saw large plants of aloes, but did not then understand them; I also saw several sugar-canes, but wild, and I came back musing with myself what course I might take to know the virtue and goodness of any of the fruits or plants which I should discover, for I knew little of the plants of the field, that might serve me to any purpose.

The next day, the 16th, I went somewhat farther than I had done the previous day and found the country became more woody than before. In this part I found different fruits, and particularly melons upon the ground in great abundance, and grapes upon the trees; the vines had spread indeed over the trees, and the clusters of grapes were now just in their prime. This was a surprising discovery, and I was exceedingly glad of them; but I was warned by my experience to eat sparingly of them, remembering that when I was ashore in Barbary, the eating

of grapes killed several of our Englishmen who were slaves there, by throwing them into fevers; but I found an excellent use for these grapes, and that was to dry them in the sun, and keep them as raisins, which would be wholesome and agreeable to eat, when no grapes might be had.

I spent all that evening there, and went not back to my habitation; which, by the way, was the first night, as I might say, I had lain from home. In the night I took my first contrivance, and got up into a tree, where I slept well, and the next morning proceeded upon my journey, travelling near four miles, as I might judge by the length of the valley, keeping still due north, with a ridge of hills on the south and north side of me.

I saw here abundance of cocoa trees, orange, and lemon, and citron trees. I resolved also to lay up a store of grapes, limes and lemons, to furnish myself for the wet season, which I knew was approaching.

When I came home from this journey, I contemplated with great pleasure, the fruitfulness of that valley, and the pleasantness of the situation, the security from storms on that side of the water, and the wood; and concluded, that I had pitched upon a place to fix my abode, which was by far the worst part of the country. Upon the whole, I began to consider of removing my habitation, and to look out for a place, equally safe as where I now was situated, if possible, in that pleasant, fruitful part of the island.

This thought ran long in my head, the pleasantness of the place tempting me; and I spent much of my time there for the remaining part of the month of July; and though, upon second thoughts, I resolved not to remove, yet I built me a little kind of a bower, and surrounded it, at a distance, with a strong fence, being a double hedge, as high as I could reach, well staked, and filled between with brushwood; and here I lay very secure, sometimes two or three nights together, always going over it with a ladder, as before; so that I fancied now I had my country-house, and my sea-coast house, and this work took me up the beginning of August.

The 3rd of August I found the grapes I had hung up were perfectly dried, and, indeed, were excellent raisins; so I began to take them down from the trees, for the rains

which followed would have spoiled them. No sooner had I taken them home to my cave, but it began to rain; and from thence, which was the 14th of August, it rained more or less every day till the middle of October, and sometimes so violently that I could not stir out of my cave for several days.

In this season I was much surprised with the increase of my family: I had been concerned for the loss of one of my cats, who ran away from me, or, as I thought, had been dead; and I heard no more of her, till, to my astonishment, she came home, about the end of August, with three kittens. This was the more strange to me, because, though I had killed a wild cat with my gun, I thought it was a quite different kind from our European cats; yet the young cats were the same kind of house breed as the old one; and both my cats being females, I thought it very strange; but from these three cats, I afterwards came to be so pestered with cats, that I was forced to drive them from my house as much as possible.

From the 14th of August to the 26th, incessant rain, so that I could not stir, and was now very careful not to be much wet. During this confinement in my cover by the rain, I worked daily two or three hours at enlarging my cave; and, by degrees, worked it on towards one side, till I came to the outside of the hill, and made a way out, which came beyond my wall; and so I came in and out this way. But I was not perfectly easy at lying so open; for, as I had managed before, I was in a perfect enclosure, whereas now I lay exposed; and yet I could not perceive that there was any living thing to fear, the biggest creature that I had ever seen upon the island being a goat.

September the 30th.—I was now come to the unhappy anniversary of my landing—I cast up the notches on my post, and found I had been on shore three hundred and sixty-five days. I kept this day as a solemn fast, setting it apart to a religious exercise, confessing myself to God, acknowledging his righteous judgment upon me, and praying to him to have mercy on me through Jesus Christ. I then ate a biscuit-cake and a bunch of grapes, and went to bed, finishing the day as I began it.

I had all this time observed no Sabbath day, for as at first I had no sense of religion upon my mind, I had, after some time, omitted to distinguish the weeks, by making a

longer notch than ordinary for the Sabbath day, and so did not really know what any of the days were; but now, having cast up the days as above, I found I had been there a year; so I divided it into weeks, and set apart every seventh day for a Sabbath; though I found, at the end of my account, I had lost a day or two of my reckoning.

A little after this my ink began to fail me, and so I contented myself to use it more sparingly, and to write down only the most remarkable events of my life, without continuing a daily memorandum of other things.

The rainy season and the dry season began now to appear regular to me, and I learned to divide them so as to provide for them accordingly; but I bought my experience at great cost. I have mentioned that I had saved the few ears of barley and rice which I had so surprisingly found spring up, as I thought, of themselves, and now I thought it a proper time to sow it after the rains, and while this was growing, I made a little discovery, which was of use to me afterwards. As soon as the rains were over, which was about the month of November, I made a visit up the country to my bower, where, though I had not been for some months, yet I found all things just as I left them. The circle or double hedge that I had made was not only firm and entire, but the stakes which I had cut off some trees that grew thereabouts, were all shot out, and grown with long branches, much as a willow tree usually shoots the first year after lopping its head. I could not tell what tree to call it, but I was surprised, and well pleased, to see the young trees grow. I pruned them, and led them up to grow as much alike as I could, and it is scarce credible how beautiful a figure they grew into in three years; so that, though the hedge made a circle of about twenty-five yards in diameter, yet the trees soon covered it; and it was a complete shade, sufficient to lodge under all the dry season.

This made me resolve to cut some more stakes, and make me a hedge like this in a semicircle round the wall of my first dwelling, which I did, placing the trees, or stakes, in a double row, at above eight yards' distance from my first fence. They grew presently, and were a fine cover to my habitation, afterwards serving for a defence also, as I shall observe in its order.

I found now, that the seasons of the year might generally

be divided, not into summer and winter, as in Europe, but into the rainy seasons and the dry seasons, which were generally thus :—

From mid-February to mid-April	Rainy, the sun being then on or near the equinox.
From mid-April to mid-August	Dry, the sun being then to the north of the Line.
From mid-August to mid-October	Rain, the sun having then come back to the Line.
From mid-October to mid-February	Dry, the sun being then to the south of the Line.

The rainy season held longer or shorter, as the winds happened to blow ; but this was the general observation I made. After I had found, by experience, the ill-consequences of being abroad in the rain, I took care to furnish myself with provisions beforehand, that I might not be obliged to go out ; and sat within doors as much as possible during the wet months.

In this time I found much employment, and very suitable also to the time, for I found great occasion of many things which I had no way to furnish myself with, but by hard labour and constant application. I tried many ways to make myself a basket, but all the twigs I could get for the purpose proved so brittle that they would do nothing. It proved an excellent advantage to me now, that when I was a boy I used to take great delight in standing at a basketmaker's in the town where my father lived, to see them make their wicker-ware. Being, as boys usually are, very officious to help, and a great observer of the manner in which they worked those things, I had sometimes lent a hand, by this means gaining so full a knowledge of the methods of it, that I wanted nothing but the materials. When it came into my mind, that the twigs of that tree from whence I cut my stakes that grew, might possibly be as tough as the willows, and osiers, in England ; and I resolved to try.

Accordingly, the next day I went to my country-house, as I called it, and, cutting some of the smaller twigs, I found them to my purpose, whereupon I came the next time prepared with a hatchet to cut down a quantity. These I set up to dry within my circle of hedges, and when they were fit for use, I carried them to my cave. Here I employed myself in making a great many baskets, both

to carry earth, or anything else for which I had occasion; and though I did not finish them very handsomely, yet I made them sufficiently serviceable for my purpose. Afterwards I took care never to be without them, and as my wicker-ware decayed, I made more; especially strong deep baskets to hold my corn, instead of sacks, when I should come to have any quantity of it.

Having mastered this difficulty I employed myself in planting my second rows of stakes, and this work took me all the summer, or dry season.

CHAPTER VIII

ROBINSON STUDIES AGRICULTURE AND POTTERY

I MENTIONED before, that I had a great mind to see the whole island, and that I had travelled up the brook to where I built my bower, and where I had an opening quite to the sea, on the other side of the island. I now resolved to travel quite across to the sea-shore on that side. So, taking my gun and hatchet, and my dog, and a larger quantity of powder and shot than usual, with two biscuit-cakes, and a great bunch of raisins in my pouch, for my store, I began my journey. When I had passed the vale where my bower stood, as above, I came within view of the sea to the west; and it being a very clear day, I descried land, whether an island or continent I could not tell; but it lay very high from the west to the west-south-west, and it could not be less than fifteen or twenty leagues off.

I could not tell what part of the world this might be, otherwise than that I knew it must be part of America; and, as I concluded by all my observations, must be near the Spanish dominions, perhaps inhabited by savages, where, if I should have landed, I had been in a worse condition than I was now; and therefore I acquiesced in the dispositions of Providence, which I began now to believe ordered everything for the best.

With these considerations I walked very leisurely forward, for I found that side of the island where I now was much pleasanter than mine—the open fields sweet, adorned with flowers and grass, and full of very fine woods. I saw

abundance of parrots, and after some painstaking caught a young one, knocking it down with a stick. I brought it home, but it was some years before I could make it speak.

I was exceedingly diverted with this journey: I found in the low grounds, hares, as I thought them to be, and foxes, but they differed greatly from all the other kinds I had met with; nor could I satisfy myself to eat them, though I killed several. I had no want of food, and of that which was very good too; especially goats, pigeons, and turtles.

I never travelled in this journey above two miles in a day, or thereabouts; but I was surprised to see that I had taken up my lot on the worst side of the island; for here, indeed, the shore was covered with innumerable turtles, also an infinite number of fowls of many kinds, many of them very good meat; but such as I knew not the names of, except those called penguins.

This side of the country was much pleasanter than mine, but yet I had not the least inclination to remove; for I was fixed in my habitation and I seemed, all the while I was here, to be upon a journey, and from home. I travelled along the shore of the sea towards the east, I suppose, about twelve miles; and then, setting up a great pole upon the shore for a mark, I concluded I would go home again; and that the next journey I took should be on the other side of the island, east from my dwelling, and so round, till I came to my post again.

I took another way to come back than that I went, thinking I could keep all the island so much in my view, that I could not miss finding my first dwelling by viewing the country—but I found myself mistaken; for, being come about two or three miles, I found myself descended into a very large valley, so surrounded by hills, that I could not see which was my way by any direction but that of the sun.

It happened, to my further misfortune, that the weather proved hazy for three or four days, while I was in this valley; and not being able to see the sun, I wandered about very uncomfortably, and at last was obliged to look for my post, and come back the same way I went.

In this journey, my dog surprised a young kid, and seized upon it; and I, running in to take hold of it, caught it, and saved it alive from the dog. I had a great mind to

bring it home, if I could; for I had often been musing whether it might not be possible to get a kid or two, and so raise a breed of tame goats, which might supply me when my powder and shot should be spent.

I made a collar for this little creature, and led him along, though with some difficulty, till I came to my bower, and there I left him, for I was very impatient to be at home, from whence I had been absent above a month.

I cannot express what a satisfaction it was to me to come into my old hutch, and lie down in my hammock-bed.

I reposed myself here a week, to rest after my long journey; during which, most of the time was taken up in the weighty affair of making a cage for my poll, who began to be mighty well acquainted with me. Then I resolved to go and fetch the kid home, and give it some food; accordingly I went, and found it where I left it, but almost starved for want of food. I went and cut branches of such shrubs as I could find, and threw it over, and having fed it, I tied it, as I did before, to lead it away; but it was so tame with being hungry, that I had no need to have tied it, for it followed me like a dog; and, as I continually fed it, the creature became so gentle and fond, that it would never leave me afterwards.

The rainy season of the autumnal equinox was now come, and I kept the 30th of September in the same solemn manner as before, being the anniversary of my landing on the island, having now been there two years, and no more prospect of being delivered than the first day I came there.

It was now that I began sensibly to feel how much more happy the life I now led was, with all its miserable circumstances, than the life I led all the past part of my days: and now, having changed both my sorrows and my joys, I began my third year: and though I have not given so particular an account of my works this year as at the first, yet in general it may be observed, that I was very seldom idle, having regularly divided my time according to the several daily employments that were before me—such as, reading the Scriptures, going abroad with my gun for food, and cooking what I had killed or caught for my supply. These took up a great part of the day; for when the sun was in the zenith, the violence of the heat was too

great to stir out ; so that about four hours in the evening was all the time I could work in.

To this short time allowed for labour may be added the exceeding laboriousness of my work ; the many hours which, for want of tools, want of help and want of skill, everything that I did took up out of my time—for example, I was full two-and-forty days making me a board for a long shelf, which I wanted in my cave ; whereas, two sawyers, with their tools and saw-pit, would have cut six of them out of the same tree in half a day.

But notwithstanding this, with patience and labour I went through many things, and indeed everything that my circumstances made necessary for me to do.

I was now, in the months of November and December, expecting my crop of barley and rice. The ground I had manured or dug up for them was not great ; for, as I observed, my seed of each was not above the quantity of half a peck, for I had lost one whole crop by sowing in the dry season ; but now my crop promised very well, when on a sudden I found I was in danger of losing it all again by enemies of several sorts, which it was scarce possible to keep from it ; as first, the goats and wild creatures which I called hares, which, tasting the sweetness of the blade, lay in it night and day, as soon as it came up, and ate it so close that it could get no time to shoot up into stalks.

This I saw no remedy for, but by making an enclosure about it with a hedge, which I did with a great deal of toil. However, as my arable land was but small, suited to my crop, I got it totally fenced in about three weeks' time, and shooting some of the creatures in the daytime, I set my dog to guard it in the night, tying him up to a stake at the gate, where he would stand and bark all night long ; so in a little time the enemies forsook the place, and the corn grew very strong and well, and began to ripen apace.

But as the beasts ruined me before, while my corn was in the blade, so the birds were as likely to ruin me now, when it was in the ear ; for, going along by the place to see how it throve, I saw my little crop surrounded with fowls I know not how many sorts, which stood as it were watching till I should be gone. I immediately let fly among them and I had no sooner shot, but there rose up

a little crowd of fowls, which I had not seen at all, from among the corn itself.

I foresaw that, in a few days, they would devour all my hopes; that I should be starved, and never be able to raise a crop at all—and what to do I could not tell; however, I fired again, and killed three of them; so I hung them up for a terror to others. It is impossible to imagine that this should have such an effect as it had; for the fowls forsook all that part of the island, and I could never see a bird near the place as long as my scarecrows hung there.

This I was very glad of, you may be sure; and about the latter end of December, which was our second harvest of the year, I reaped my corn.

I was sadly put to it for a scythe to cut it down, and all I could do was to make one as well as I could, out of one of the broadswords, or cutlasses, which I saved among the arms out of the ship. However, as my crop was but small I reaped it by cutting nothing off but the ears, and carried it away in a great basket which I had made, rubbed it out with my hands; and, at the end of all my harvesting, found that out of my half peck of seed I had near two bushels of rice, and above two bushels and a half of barley.

This was a great encouragement to me; and I foresaw that in time it would please God to supply me with bread: yet here I was perplexed again, for I neither knew how to grind nor make meal of my corn; nor, if made into meal, how to make bread of it, nor how to bake it, so I resolved not to taste any of this crop, but to preserve it all for seed against the next season, and, in the meantime, to employ all my study to accomplish this great work of providing myself with corn and bread.

First, I had no plough to turn the earth, no spade or shovel to dig it. Well, this I conquered by making a wooden spade, as I observed before; but this, though it cost me a great many days to make it, not only wore out the sooner, but made my work the harder, and performed much worse.

I had no harrow either, but was forced to drag a great heavy bough of a tree over the earth to rake or harrow it.

When the corn was grown I wanted to reap it, thresh it, grind it, make it into bread, and an oven to bake it in. All these things I did without, and yet the corn was an

inestimable comfort and advantage to me too. All this made everything laborious to me, but that there was no help for.

I had now seed enough to sow above an acre of ground. Before I did this, I had a week's work at least to make me a spade, which, when it was done, was very heavy and required double labour to work with it; however, I sowed my seeds in two large flat pieces of ground, as near my house as I could find them to my mind, and fenced them in with a good hedge; so that in one year's time I knew I should have a quick or living hedge, that would want but little repair. This work took me less than three months; because great part of that time was in the wet season, when I could not go abroad.

When it rained and I could not go out, I found employment within doors and diverted myself by talking to my parrot, teaching him to speak, and to know his own name, and at last to speak it out pretty loud, POLL, which was the first word I ever heard spoken in the island by any mouth but my own. This, therefore, was not my work, but an assistant to my work; for now, I had by some means or other, to make myself some earthen vessels, which indeed I wanted sorely, but knew not where to come at them. However, considering the heat of the climate, I did not doubt but, if I could find out any suitable clay, I might botch up some such pot as might, being dried by the sun, be hard enough and strong enough to bear handling, and to hold anything that was dry, and required to be kept so; and as this was necessary in preparing corn, meal, etc., I resolved to make some as large as I could, to stand like jars and hold what should be put into them.

CHAPTER IX

HE MAKES A CANOE AND TURNS TAILOR

IT would make the reader pity me, or rather laugh at me, to tell how many awkward ways I took to raise this paste, what odd, misshapen, ugly things I made; how many of them fell in, the clay not being stiff enough to bear its own weight; how many cracked by the over-violent

heat of the sun, and fell to pieces with only removing; how, after having laboured hard to find the clay, to dig it, bring it home, and work it, I could not make above two large earthen ugly things—I cannot call them jars—in about two months' labour.

However, as the sun baked these two very dry and hard, I lifted them very gently and set them in two great wicker baskets, which I had made on purpose for them, that they might not break; and, as between the pot and the basket there was a little room to spare, I stuffed it full of the rice and barley straw. These two pots being to stand always dry, I thought would hold my dry corn, and perhaps the meal when the corn was bruised.

I made several smaller things with better success: such as, little round pots, flat dishes, pitchers, and pipkins; and the heat of the sun baked them strangely hard.

But all this would not answer my end, which was to get an earthen pot to hold what was liquid, and bear the fire, which none of these could do. It happened after some time, making a pretty large fire for cooking my meat, that when I went to put it out, after I had done with it, I found a broken piece of one of my earthenware vessels in the fire, burnt as hard as a stone, and red as a tile. I was agreeably surprised to see it, and said to myself, that certainly they might be made to burn whole, if they would burn broken.

This set me to study how to order my fire, so as to make it burn me some pots. I had no notion of a kiln such as the potters burn in, or of glazing them with lead, though I had some lead to do it with; but I placed two or three pots, in a pile, one upon another, and placed my firewood all round it, with a great heap of embers under them: I piled the fire with fresh fuel round the outside, and upon the top, till I saw the pots in the inside red hot quite through, and observed that they did not crack at all: when I saw them clear red, I let them stand in that heat about five or six hours, till I found one of them, though it did not crack, did melt, or run; for the sand which was mixed with the clay melted by the violence of the heat, and would have run into glass if I had gone on; so I slacked my fire gradually, till the pots began to abate of the red colour, and watching them all night, that I might not let the fire abate too fast, in the morning I

had three very good other earthen pots, as hard burnt as could be desired, and one of them perfectly glazed with the running of the sand.

After this experiment, I need not say that I wanted no sort of earthenware for my use, and when I found I had made an earthen pot that would bear the fire I had hardly patience to stay till they were cold, before I set one upon the fire again with some water in it, to boil me some meat, which it did admirably well.

My next concern was to get me a stone mortar to beat some corn in; for as to the mill, there was no thought of arriving to that perfection of art with one pair of hands. To supply this want, I was at a great loss; for I had no tools to go about it with. I spent many a day trying to find a stone big enough to cut hollow, and make fit for a mortar, and could find none at all, except what was in the solid rock, and which I had no way to cut out; so, after a great deal of time lost in searching for a stone, I gave it over, and resolved to look out for a great block of hard wood, which I found indeed much easier; and, getting one as big as I had strength to stir, I rounded it, and formed it on the outside with my axe and hatchet; and then, with the help of fire and infinite labour, made a hollow place in it, as the Indians in Brazil make their canoes. After this I made a great heavy pestle of the wood called the iron-wood, and this I prepared and laid by until I had my next crop of corn, when I proposed to grind, or rather pound, my corn to meal, to make my bread.

My next difficulty was to make a sieve to part it from the bran and the husk, without which I did not see it possible that I could have any bread. This was a most difficult thing, and all the remedy that I found was, that at last I did remember I had among the seamen's clothes which were saved out of the ship, some cloths of calico, or muslin; and with some pieces of these I made small sieves, proper enough for the work; and thus I made shift for some years.

The baking part was the next thing to be considered; for, first, I had no yeast. As to an oven, I was, indeed, in great perplexity. At length I made some earthen vessels very broad, but not deep; these I burnt in the fire, as I had done the others, and laid them by; and when I wanted to bake, I made a great fire upon the hearth,

which I had paved with some square tiles of my own making and burning also—but I should not call them square.

When the firewood was burnt to embers I drew them forward upon this hearth, so as to cover it all over, and there I let them lie, till the hearth was very hot; then, sweeping away all the embers, I set down my loaves, and, pressing down the earthen pot upon them, drew the embers all round the outside of the pot, to keep in, and add to the heat: and thus I baked my barley-loaves, and became in a little time a good pastry-cook into the bargain; for I made myself several cakes of the rice.

It need not be wondered at, if all these things took up most part of the third year of my abode here; for in the interval of these things I had my new harvest to manage. I reaped my corn in its season, and carrying it home as well as I could, laid it up in my large baskets, till I had time to rub it out.

And now, indeed, my stock of corn increasing, I wanted a place to lay it up in; for the increase of the corn now yielded me so much, that I had of the barley about twenty bushels, and of the rice as much, or more; so that I now resolved to use it freely, for my bread had been gone a great while; also I resolved to see what quantity would be sufficient for a whole year, so as to sow but once a year.

I found that the forty bushels of barley and rice were much more than I could consume in a year; so I resolved to sow just the same quantity every year in hopes that such a quantity would fully provide me with bread, etc.

While these things were doing my thoughts ran many times upon the land which I had seen from the other side of the island, fancying that I might find some way or other to convey myself thither, and, perhaps, at last find some means of escape.

But I made no allowance for the dangers of such a condition, and how I might fall into the hands of savages, and, perhaps, the lions and tigers of Africa: and my head ran mightily upon the thoughts of getting over to that shore.

I wished for my boy Xury, and the long-boat with the shoulder-of-mutton sail, with which I sailed above a thousand miles on the coast of Africa; but this was in vain. Then I thought I would go and look on our ship's

boat, which was blown up upon the shore a great way in the storm, when we were first cast away. She lay almost bottom upwards, against the high ridge of a beachy rough sand, but no water about her as before.

If I had had hands to have launched her into the water, the boat would have done very well, and I might have gone back into the Brazils with her, but I could no more turn her, and set her upright than I could remove the island However, I went to the wood, and cutting levers and rollers, brought them to the boat, believing that if I could but repair the damage she had received, she would be a very good boat, and I might go to sea in her very easily.

I spared no pains, indeed, in this piece of fruitless toil, and spent, I think, three or four weeks about it; at last, finding it impossible to heave it up with my little strength, I fell to the digging away the sand to undermine it, and so to make it fall down, setting pieces of wood to thrust and guide it right in the fall.

But when I had done this, I was unable to move it forwards towards the water; so I was forced to give it over: and yet my desire to venture over for the main increased, rather than decreased, as the means for it seemed impossible.

This at length set me upon thinking whether it was not possible to make myself a canoe, such as the natives of those climates make, of the trunk of a great tree. This I not only thought possible, but easy; and pleased myself extremely with the thoughts of making it; but not at all considering that I was not able to launch it into the water?

I went to work upon this boat the most like a fool that ever man did who had any of his senses awake. I felled a cedar tree five feet ten inches in diameter at the lower part next the stump, and four feet eleven inches in diameter at the end of twenty-two feet, after which it lessened for a while, and then parted into branches. I was twenty days hacking and hewing at it at the bottom; I was fourteen more getting the branches and limbs, and the vast spreading head of it, cut off, which I hacked and hewed through with my axe and hatchet with inexpressible labour; after this it cost me a month to shape it to something like the bottom of a boat, that it might swim upright as it ought to do. It cost me near three months more

to clear the inside by mere mallet and chisel, and by the dint of hard labour, but, when I had gone through this work all my devices to get it into the water failed me, though it lay but one hundred yards from the water, and not more.

This grieved me heartily; and now I saw, though too late the folly of beginning a work before we count the cost, and before we judge rightly of our own strength to go through with it.

In the middle of this work I finished my fourth year in this place, and kept my anniversary with the same devotion, and with as much comfort, as ever before; for, by constant study, I gained a different knowledge from what I had before, and I entertained different notions of things.

I had now brought my state of life to be much easier in itself than it was at first, and much easier to my mind as well as to my body. I learnt to look more upon the bright side of my condition, and less upon the dark side, and to consider what I enjoyed rather than what I wanted.

I spent whole hours in representing to myself, in the most lively colours, how I must have acted if I had got nothing out of the ship; how I could not have so much as got any food, except fish and turtles; and that I should have lived, if I had not perished, like a mere savage, that if I had killed a goat or a fowl by any contrivance, I had no way to part the flesh from the skin, but must gnaw it with my teeth, or pull it with my claws like a beast.

These reflections made me very sensible of the goodness of Providence to me, comparing my present condition with what I had reason to expect, and that I could hardly have named a place in the uninhabited part of the world where I could have been cast more to my advantage—a place where I found no ravenous beasts to threaten my life, no venomous creatures or poisonous, which I might have fed on to my hurt, no savages to murder and devour me.

My ink had been gone for some time, all but a very little, which I eked out with water till it was so pale it scarce left any appearance of black upon the paper, as was also the biscuit which I brought out of the ship. This I had

husbanded to the last degree, allowing myself but one cake of bread a-day, for above a year: and yet I was quite without bread for a year before I got any corn of my own; and great reason I had to be thankful that I had any at all, the getting it being, as it has been already observed, next to miraculous.

My clothes, too, began to decay mightily: as to linen, I had none except some chequered shirts which I found in the chests of the other seamen, and carefully preserved, and it was a very great help to me that I had, among all the men's clothes of the ship, almost three dozen shirts. There were also several thick watch-coats of the seamen, which were left behind, but they were too hot to wear. I had worn out all the waistcoats I had, and my business was now to try if I could not make jackets out of the watch-coats and such other materials as I had—so I set to work a-tailoring, or rather, indeed, a-botching—for I made most piteous work of it. However, I made shift to make two or three waistcoats, which I hoped would serve me for a great while.

I have mentioned that I saved the skins of all the creatures that I killed, and had hung them up stretched out with sticks in the sun; by which means some of them were so dry and hard that they were fit for little; but others were very useful. The first thing I made of these was a great cap for my head, with the hair on the outside to shoot off the rain: and this I performed so well, that after this I made a suit of clothes wholly of those skins —that is to say, a waistcoat and breeches open at the knees, and both loose; for they were rather wanted to keep me cool, than to keep me warm. I made a very good shift with these for when I was abroad, if it happened to rain, the hair of the waistcoat and cap being outmost, I was kept very dry.

After this, I spent a deal of time and pains to make me an umbrella: I had seen them made in the Brazils, where they are very useful as well for the rains as the heats. I took a world of pains at it, and was a great while before I made one to my mind; but at last I made one that answered indifferently well. I covered it with skins, the hair upwards, so that it cast off the rain like a penthouse, and kept off the sun so effectually, that I could walk out in the hottest weather, with greater advantage than I

could before in the coolest; and, when I had no need of it, I could close it, and carry it under my arm.

Thus I lived mighty comfortably, my mind being entirely composed by resigning to the will of God, and this made my life better than sociable; for, when I began to regret the want of conversation, I would ask myself, whether thus conversing mutely with my own thoughts was not better than the utmost enjoyment of human society in the world.

I cannot say, that, after this, for five years, any extraordinary thing happened to me; but I lived on in the same course and place, just as before. The chief thing I was employed in, besides my yearly labour of planting my barley and rice, and curing my raisins, and my daily labour of going out with my gun, was to make me a canoe, which at last I finished and brought into the creek. As for the first, that I made without considering beforehand how I should be able to launch it, never being able to bring it to the water, I was obliged to let it lie where it was, to teach me to be wiser next time; yet, though I was near two years about it, I never grudged my labour, in hopes of having a boat to go off to sea at last.

CHAPTER X

A CRUISE AROUND THE ISLAND—ROBINSON TURNS GOATHERD

However, though my canoe was finished, yet the size of it was not at all answerable to the design which I had in view when I made the first; I mean that of venturing over to the terra firma, where it was above forty miles broad; accordingly, the smallness of the boat put an end to that design, and now I thought no more of it. But as I had a boat, my next design was to make a tour round the island: for, as I had been on the other side, crossing over the land, the discoveries I made on that journey made me very eager to see the other parts of the coast; and I thought of nothing but sailing round the island.

For this purpose I fitted up a little mast to my boat, and made a sail to it out of some of the pieces of the ship's sails, of which I had a great store by me.

Having fitted my mast and sail, and tried the boat, I found she would sail very well. Then I made little lockers at each end of my boat, to hold provisions and ammunition, to be kept dry, and a little long hollow place I cut in the inside of the boat, where I could lay my gun.

In the sixth year of my captivity I set out on this voyage, and found it much longer than I expected; for though the island itself was not very large, yet when I came to the east side of it, I found a great ledge of rocks lying out about two leagues into the sea, some above water, some under it; and beyond this a shoal of sand, lying dry half a league more; so that I was obliged to go a great way out to sea to double that point.

When I first discovered them, I was going to give over my enterprise, and come back again, not knowing how far it might oblige me to go out to sea, and, above all, doubting how I should get back again; so I came to an anchor, for I had made me a kind of an anchor with a piece of broken grappling which I got out of the ship.

Having secured my boat, I took my gun, and went on shore, climbing on to a hill, which seemed to overlook that point, where I saw the full extent of it, and resolved to venture.

From that hill where I stood, I perceived in the sea a strong, and indeed a most furious current, which ran to the east, and even came close to the point; and I saw there might be some danger of being carried out to sea by the strength of it, and unable to make the island again. Indeed, had I not climbed first upon this hill, I believe it would have been so, for I saw there was a strong eddy under the shore, so I had but to get out of the first current, and I should presently be in an eddy.

I lay here, however, two days; because the wind blowing east-south-east, and that being just contrary to the current, made a great breach of the sea upon the point; so that it was not safe for me to keep too close to the shore nor to go far off because of the stream.

The third day in the morning, the wind having abated overnight, the sea was calm, and I ventured: but no sooner was I come to the point, but I found myself in a great depth of water and a current like the sluice of a mill. It carried my boat along with it, with such violence that all I could do could not keep her so much as on the edge

of it: but I found it hurried me farther and farther out from the eddy, which was on the left hand. There was no wind stirring to help me, and I began to give myself over for lost; for, as the current was on both sides of the island, I knew in a few leagues' distance they must join again, and then I was irrecoverably gone, nor did I see any possibility of avoiding it. I had no prospect before me but of perishing, not by the sea, for that was calm enough, but of hunger. I had, indeed, found a tortoise on the shore, as big almost as I could lift, and had tossed it into the boat; and I had a great jar of fresh water, but what was all this to being driven into the vast ocean, where there was no shore for a thousand leagues at least?

Now, I looked back upon my desolate island as the most pleasant place in the world, and all the happiness my heart could wish for was to be there again. It is scarce possible to imagine the consternation I was in, being driven from my beloved island, for so it appeared to me now, into the wide ocean; however, I worked hard, till indeed my strength was almost exhausted, and kept my boat as much to the northward, that is, towards the side of the current which the eddy lay on, as I could; when about noon, as the sun passed the meridian, I felt a little breeze springing up from the south-south-east. This cheered my heart a little, especially when, in about half an hour more, it blew a gentle gale. By this time I had reached a frightful distance from the island; and, had the least cloud or hazy weather intervened, I had been undone, for I had no compass on board, and should never have known how to have steered towards the island, if I had but once lost sight of it; but the weather continuing clear, I spread my sail, standing away to the north as much as possible, to get out of the current.

Just as I had set my mast and sail, and the boat began to stretch away, I found the current abate, and presently the main stress of it ran away more southerly, leaving the rocks to the north-east, so the other returned by the repulse of the rock, and made a strong eddy, which ran back again to the north-west with a very sharp stream.

I put my boat into the stream of this eddy; and the wind also freshening, how gladly I spread my sail to it, running cheerfully before the wind, and with a strong tide or eddy under foot!

This eddy carried me about a league in my way back again directly towards the island, but when I had made something more than a league of way, by the help of this heavy current or eddy, I found it was spent, and served me no farther. However, I found the water at least still, and running no way; and having still a breeze of wind fair for me, I kept on steering directly for the island.

In the evening, being then within about a league of the island, I found the point of the rocks which occasioned this distance stretching out, as is described before, to the southward, and, casting off the current more southwardly, had, of course, made another eddy to the north; and this I found very strong, but not directly setting the way my course lay, which was due west, but almost full north. However, having a fresh gale, I stretched across this eddy, slanting north-west, and, in about an hour, came within a mile of the shore, where, it being smooth water, I soon got to land.

When I was on shore, I fell on my knees, and gave God thanks for my deliverance, and, refreshing myself with such things as I had, I brought my boat close to the shore, in a little cove that I had espied under some trees, and laid me down to sleep, being quite spent with the labour and fatigue of the voyage.

I was awakened out of my sleep by a voice calling me by my name several times, "Robin, Robin Crusoe, poor Robin Crusoe! Where are you, Robin?"

I was dead asleep at first, being fatigued with rowing, and I did not awake thoroughly; but as the voice continued to repeat "Robin Crusoe, Robin Crusoe!" I began to awake more perfectly, and started up in the utmost consternation: but no sooner were my eyes open, than I saw my Poll sitting on the top of the hedge, and immediately knew that this was he that spoke to me; for just in such language I had used to talk to him, and he had learned it so perfectly, that he would sit upon my finger, and cry "Poor Robin Crusoe, where are you?" and such things as I taught him.

However, even though I knew it was the parrot, it was a good while before I could compose myself. Holding out my hand, I called him by his name, "Poll!" and the sociable creature came to me, and sat upon my thumb, as he used to do, and continued talking to me—"Poor Robin Crusoe" and "How did I come here?" just as if

he had been overjoyed to see me again, so I carried him home along with me.

I had now had enough of rambling to sea for some time, and for many days sat still and reflected upon the danger I had been in. I would have been very glad to have had my boat again on my side of the island, but I knew not how to get it about. So I contented myself to be without any boat, though it had been the product of so many months' labour to make it, and of so many more to get it into the sea.

In this state of mind I remained nearly a year, resigning myself to living really very happily in all things, except that of society.

I improved my time by applying myself to carpentering, and besides this, arrived at an unexpected perfection in my earthenware, contriving to make them with a wheel, which I found infinitely easier and better; because I made things round and well-shaped, which before had been hideous indeed to look on. But I think I never was more vain of my own performance, than when I made a tobacco-pipe; and though it was a very ugly clumsy thing when it was done, and only burnt red like other earthenware, yet as it was hard and firm, and would draw the smoke, I was exceedingly comforted by it—for I had been always used to smoke in the ship.

In my wickerwork I also improved much, and made abundance of baskets, convenient for fetching things home in.

I began now to perceive that my powder had abated considerably; and to consider what I must do when I should have no more. Being now in the eleventh year of my residence, I set myself to study some art to snare the goats, to see whether I could not catch some of them alive. To this purpose I resolved to try a pitfall; so I dug several large pits in the earth, in places where I had observed the goats used to feed, and over these I placed hurdles with a great weight upon them. Several times I put in ears of barley, and dry rice, without setting the trap; and I could easily perceive that the goats had gone in, and eaten up the corn, for I could see the marks of their feet: at length, I set three traps in one night, and the next morning, I found in one of them a large old he-goat, and in the other, three kids, a male, and two females.

As to the old one, I knew not what to do with him; he was so fierce, I durst not try to bring him away alive which was what I wanted. So I let him out, and he ran away as if he had been frightened out of his wits.

Then I went to the three kids; and, taking them one by one, I tied them with strings together, and with considerable difficulty brought them all home.

It was a good while before they would feed; but throwing them some sweet corn, it tempted them, and they began to be tame: and now I found that if I expected to supply myself with goat's flesh, when I had no powder or shot left, breeding up some tame was my only way, when, perhaps, I might have them about my house like a flock of sheep.

But then it presently occurred to me, that I must keep the tame from the wild, or else they would always run wild when they grew up; and the only way for this was to have some enclosed piece of ground, well fenced, to keep them in so effectually that those within might not break out, or those without break in.

This was a great undertaking for one pair of hands; yet as I saw there was an absolute necessity for doing it, my work was to find out a proper piece of ground, where there was likely to be herbage for them to eat, water to drink, and cover to keep them from the sun.

I was about three months hedging in the first piece; and till I had done it, I tethered the three kids in the best part of it, as near me as possible, to make them familiar; and very often I would go and carry them some ears of barley, or a handful of rice, and feed them out of my hand; so that after my enclosure was finished, and I let them loose, they would follow me up and down, bleating after me for a handful of corn.

This answered my end, and in about a year and a half I had a flock of about twelve goats, kids and all.

Now I not only had got goat's flesh to feed on when I pleased, but milk too, a thing which indeed in my beginning I did not so much as think of, and which, when it came into my thoughts, was really an agreeable surprise; for now I set up my dairy, and had sometimes a gallon or two of milk in a day, as well as butter and cheese. What a table was here spread for me, in a wilderness where I saw nothing at first but to perish for hunger!

It would have made a stoic smile, to have seen me and my little family sit down to dinner: there was my majesty, the prince and lord of the whole island; I had the lives of all my subjects at absolute command; I could hang, give life and liberty, or take it away, and no rebels among all my subjects.

Then, too, how like a king I dined all alone, attended by my servants. Poll, as if he had been my favourite, was the only person permitted to talk to me; my dog, which was now grown very old, sat always at my right hand; and two cats, one on each side of the table, expecting now and then a bit from my hand, as a mark of special favour.

CHAPTER XI

ROBINSON FINDS A FOOTPRINT ON THE SANDS

I COULD not but smile at the notion of my equipage and dress, for I wore a great high shapeless cap, made of goat's skin, with a flap hanging down behind, as well to keep the sun from me as to shoot the rain off from running into my neck; nothing being so hurtful in these climates as the rain upon the flesh under the clothes.

I had a short jacket, and a pair of open-kneed breeches, made of the skin of an old he-goat, whose hair hung down such a length on either side, that, like pantaloons, it reached to the middle of my legs. Stockings and shoes I had none; but I had made me a pair of something, I scarce knew what to call them, like buskins, to flap over my legs, and lace on either side, but of a most barbarous shape, as indeed were all the rest of my clothes.

I had a broad belt of goat's skin dried, which I drew together with two thongs of the same, instead of buckles; and in a kind of a frog on either side of this, instead of a sword and dagger, hung a little saw and a hatchet—one on each side. I had another belt not so broad, and fastened in the same manner, which hung over my shoulder; and at the end of it, under my left arm, hung two pouches, both made of goat's skin too, in one of which hung my powder, in the other my shot. At my back I carried my

basket, on my shoulder my gun, and over my head a great clumsy goat's skin umbrella, which was the most necessary thing I had about me, next to my gun. As for my face, the colour of it was really not so mulatto-like as one might expect from a man not at all careful of it, and living within nine or ten degrees of the equinox. My beard I had once suffered to grow till it was about a quarter of a yard long; but as I had both scissors and razors sufficient, I had cut it pretty short, except what grew on my upper lip, which I had trimmed into a large pair of Mahometan whiskers, such as I had seen worn by some Turks whom I saw at Sallee. These whiskers, though I will not say they were long enough to hang my hat upon, were of length and shape monstrous enough, and such as in England would have passed for frightful.

In this kind of garb I went on my new journey, and was out five or six days. I travelled first along the sea-shore directly to the place where I first brought my boat to an anchor, to get upon the rocks; and, having no boat now to take care of, I went over the land a nearer way, to the same height that I was upon before.

You are to understand, that now I had two plantations in the island, one my little fortification, or tent, with the wall about it under the rock, and the cave behind me, which by this time I had enlarged into several apartments or caves, one within another.

Besides this, I had my country seat, and I had now a tolerable plantation there also; for first, I had my little bower, which I kept in repair, the hedge which encircled it, constantly fitted up to its usual height, the ladder standing always in the inside, and the trees so cut that they might spread, and growing thick make the more agreeable shade, which they did effectually to my mind. In the middle of this I had my tent always standing, being a piece of sail spread over poles set up for that purpose, and which never wanted any repair or renewing; and under this I had made me a couch, with the skins of the creatures I had killed, and with other soft things, and a blanket laid on them, such as belonged to our sea bedding, which I had saved, and here, whenever I had occasion to be absent from my chief seat, I took up my country habitation.

Adjoining to this, I had my enclosures for my goats: and as I had taken inconceivable pains to fence and enclose

this ground, I was so anxious to see it kept entire, lest the goats should break through, that I had struck the outside of the hedge full of small stakes, and so near to one another, that it was rather a pale than a hedge, and there was scarce room to put a hand through between them.

In this place also I had my grapes growing, which I principally depended on for my winter store of raisins, and which I never failed to preserve very carefully, as the best and most agreeable dainty of my whole diet.

As this was also about half-way between my other habitation and the place where I had laid up the boat, I generally stayed and lay here on my way thither; for I used frequently to visit my boat, and I kept all things belonging to her in very good order. Sometimes I went out in her to divert myself; but no more hazardous voyages would I go. I was so apprehensive of being hurried out of my knowledge again by the currents.

It happened one day about noon, going towards my boat, I was exceedingly surprised with the print of a man's naked foot on the shore, which was very plain to be seen in the sand. I stood like one thunderstruck, listened, looked round me—I could hear nothing, nor see anything: I went up to a rising ground to look farther; I went up the shore and down the shore, but I could see no other impression but that one. I went to it again to see if there were any more, and to observe if it might not be my fancy; but there was no room for that, for there was exactly the very print of a foot, toes, heel, and every other part. How it came thither I knew not, nor could in the least imagine, but after innumerable confused thoughts I came home to my fortification, terrified to the last degree, looking behind me at every two or three steps, mistaking every bush and tree, and fancying every stump at a distance to be a man; nor is it possible to describe how many wild ideas were formed every moment in my fancy—and what strange unaccountable whimsies came into my thoughts by the way.

When I came to my castle (for so I called it ever after this) I fled into it like one pursued; whether I went over by the ladder, at first contrived, or went in at the hole in the rock, which I called a door, I cannot remember; for never frighted hare fled to cover, or fox to earth, with more terror of mind than I to this retreat

I had no sleep that night, for I was so embarrassed with my own frightful ideas of the thing, that I fancied it must be the devil; and reason joined in with me upon this supposition. For how should any other thing in human shape come into the place? Where was the vessel that brought them? What marks were there of any other footsteps? And how was it possible that a man should come there?

Presently I concluded that it must be some of the savages from the mainland over against me, who had wandered out to sea in their canoes, and, either driven by the currents, or by contrary winds, had made the island, and had been on shore, but were gone away again to sea, being as loth, perhaps, to have stayed in this desolate island, as I would have been to have had them.

While these reflections were rolling upon my mind, it came into my thoughts that all this might be a mere chimera of my own; that this foot might be the print of my own foot, when I came on shore from my boat. This cheered me a little, and I began to persuade myself it was all a delusion—that it was nothing else but my own foot; and why might I not come that way from my boat, as well as I was going that way to the boat. Again, I considered also, that I could by no means tell for certain where I had trod, and, where I had not; and that if at last this was only the print of my own foot, I had played the part of those fools who strive to make stories of spectres and apparitions, and then are themselves frighted at them more than anybody else.

Now I began to take courage, and to peep abroad again—for I had not stirred out of my castle for three days and nights, so that I began to starve for provision; for I had little or nothing within doors, but some barley-cakes and water. Then I knew that my goats wanted to be milked too, which usually was my evening diversion—and the poor creatures were in great pain and inconvenience for want of it; and, indeed, it nearly spoiled some of them, and almost dried up their milk.

Heartening myself, therefore, with the belief that this was nothing but the print of one of my own feet (and so I might be truly said to start at my own shadow), I began to go abroad again, and went to my country-house to milk my flock; but to see with what fear I went forward, how

often I looked behind me, how I was ready, every now and then, to lay down my basket, and run for my life, would have made anyone think that I was haunted with an evil conscience.

In two or three days, having seen nothing, I began to be a little bolder, and to think there was really nothing in it but my own imagination; but I could not persuade myself fully of this, till I should go down to the shore again and see this print of a foot, and measure it by my own, that I might be assured it was my own foot. But when I came to measure the mark with my own foot, I found my foot not so large by a great deal. This filled my head with new imaginations, so that I shook with cold like one in an ague, and I went home again, filled with the belief that some man or men had been on shore there and that I might be surprised before I was aware; and what course to take for my security I knew not.

This confusion of my thoughts kept me waking all night; but in the morning I fell asleep, and awakened much better composed than I had ever been before. And now I began to consider of some safe retreat, in case I should see any savages land upon the spot.

I sorely repented that I had dug my cave so large as to bring a door through again, which door came out beyond where my fortification joined to the rock. Upon considering this, therefore, I resolved to draw me a second fortification at a distance from my wall, just where I had planted a double row of trees about twelve years before. These trees having been planted so thick before, there wanted but a few piles to be driven between them, that they should be thicker and stronger, and my wall would be soon finished.

So that I had now a double wall, the outer one thickened with pieces of timber, old cables, and everything I could think of, to make it strong: having in it seven little holes, about as big as I might put my arm through. In the inside of this I thickened my wall to about ten feet thick, continually bringing earth out of my cave, and laying it at the foot of the wall, and walking upon it; and through the seven holes I contrived to plant the muskets, of which I got seven on shore out of the ship. These I planted like my cannon, and fitted them into frames that held them like a carriage so that I could fire all the seven guns in

two minutes' time. This wall I was many a weary month in finishing, and yet never thought myself safe till it was done.

When this was done, I stuck all the ground without my wall, for a great way, as full with stakes of the osier-like wood, which I found so apt to grow, as they could well stand; insomuch, that I believe I must have set in near twenty thousand of them, leaving a pretty large space between them and my wall, that I might have room to see an enemy, and they might have no shelter from the young trees, if they attempted to approach my outer wall.

Thus in two years' time I had a thick grove; and in five or six years' time I had a wood before my dwelling, grown so monstrous thick and strong, that it was, indeed, perfectly impassable; and no man, of whatsoever kind, would ever imagine that there was anything beyond it, much less a habitation. As for the way I proposed myself to go in and out, for I left no avenue, it was by setting two ladders; one to a part of the rock which was low, and then broke in, and left room to place another ladder upon that; so when the two ladders were taken down, no man living could come down to me without doing himself a mischief, and if they had come down, they were still on the outside of my outer wall.

Thus I took all the measures human prudence could suggest for my own preservation; and it will be seen at length, that they were not altogether without just reason —though I foresaw nothing at that time more than my mere fear suggested.

While this was doing, I was not altogether careless of my other affairs, for I had a great concern for my little herd of goats. They were not only an ever-present supply to me upon every occasion, without the expense of powder and shot, but also abated the fatigue of my hunting after the wild ones; and I was loth to lose the advantage of them, and to have them all to nurse up over again.

To this purpose, after long consideration, I could think of but two ways to preserve them: one was to find another convenient place to dig a cave under ground, and to drive them into it every night; and the other was to enclose two or three little bits of land, remote from one another, and as much concealed as I could, where I might keep about half a dozen young goats in each place, so that if

any disaster happened to the flock in general, I might be able to raise them again with little trouble and time; and this, though it would require a great deal of time and labour, I thought was the most rational design.

Accordingly, I spent some time to find out the most retired parts of the island; and I pitched upon one which was as private, indeed, as my heart could wish, for it was a little damp piece of ground in the middle of the hollow and thick woods, where, as is observed, I almost lost myself once before, endeavouring to come back that way from the eastern part of the island. Here I found a clear piece of land, near three acres, so surrounded with woods that it was almost an enclosure by nature; at least, it did not want near so much labour to make it so, as the other pieces of ground I had worked so hard at.

I immediately went to work with this piece of ground, and in less than a month's time I had so fenced it round that my herd were well enough secured in it. So, without any further delay, I removed ten she-goats and two he-goats to this piece; and when there, I continued to perfect the fence, till I had made it as secure as the other.

CHAPTER XII

SAVAGES VISIT THE ISLAND—ROBINSON MAKES A NEW FORTRESS

All this labour I was at the expense of, purely from my apprehensions on account of the print of a man's foot which I had seen; for as yet I never saw any human creature come near the island, and I had now lived two years under these uneasinesses, which, indeed, made my life much less comfortable than it was before, as may well be imagined by any who know what it is to live in the constant fear of man.

Having thus secured one part of my little living stock, I went about the whole island searching for another private place to make such another deposit; when, wandering more to the west point of the island than I had ever done yet, and looking out to sea, I thought I saw a boat upon the sea at a great distance. I had found a

perspective glass or two in one of the seamen's chests which I saved out of our ship; but I had it not about me, and this was so remote, that I could not tell what to make of it, though I looked at it till my eyes were not able to look any longer. As I descended from the hill, I could see no more of it, so I gave it over; only I resolved to go no more without a perspective glass in my pocket.

When I had come down the hill to the end of the island, where indeed I had never been before, I was presently convinced that seeing the print of a man's foot was not such a strange thing in the island as I imagined; and, but that by a special providence that I had been cast upon the side of the island where the savages never came I should easily have known, that nothing was more frequent than for the canoes from the main, when they happened to be a little too far out at sea, to shoot over to that side of the island for harbour; likewise, as they often met, and fought in their canoes, the victors, having taken any prisoners, would bring them over to this shore, where, according to their dreadful customs, being all cannibals, they would kill and eat them—of which hereafter.

Having come down the hill to the south-west point of the island, I was perfectly confounded and amazed; nor is it possible for me to express the horror of my mind, at seeing the shore spread with skulls, hands, feet, and other bones of human bodies; and, particularly, I observed a place where there had been a fire made, and a circle dug in the earth, like a cock-pit, where I supposed the savage wretches had sat down to their inhuman feastings upon the bodies of their fellow-creatures.

I was so astonished at the sight of these things that I entertained no notions of any danger to myself from it for a long while; all my apprehensions were buried in the thoughts of such a pitch of inhuman brutality, and horror of the degeneracy of human nature; which, though I had heard of often, yet I never had so near a view of before. I turned away my face from the horrid spectacle, and climbed up the hill again with all the speed I could to my own habitation.

When I came a little out of that part of the island, I stood still a while amazed; and then recovering myself, I looked up with tears in my eyes, and gave God thanks, that had cast my lot in a part of the world where I was

distinguished from such dreadful creatures as these; and that, though I had esteemed my present condition very miserable, had yet given me so many comforts in it, that I had still more to give thanks for than to complain of.

In this frame of thankfulness I went home to my castle, and began to be much easier now, as to the safety of my circumstances, than ever I was before—for I observed, that these wretches never came to this island in search of what they could get—perhaps not expecting anything here, and having often, no doubt, been up in the covered woody part of it, without finding anything to their purpose.

Yet I entertained such an abhorrence of the savage wretches that I continued close within my three plantations, namely, my castle, my country seat, which I called my bower, and my enclosure in the woods; nor did I so much as go to look after my boat in all this time, but began rather to think of making me another; for I could not consider making any more attempts to bring the other boat round the island to me, lest I should meet with some of those creatures at sea, in which, if I had happened to have fallen into their hands, I knew what would have been my lot.

Time, however, and the satisfaction I had that I was in no danger of being discovered by these people, began to wear off my uneasiness about them, and I began to live just in the same composed manner as before; only with this difference, that I kept my eyes more about me than I did before, lest I should happen to be seen by any of them; and I was more cautious of firing my gun, lest any of them on the island should happen to hear it; so that for two years after this, I believe I never fired my gun, though I never went out without it. I likewise furbished up the great cutlass that I had out of the ship, and made me a belt to put it in also: so that I was now a most formidable fellow to look at when I went abroad, if you add to the former description of myself, two pistols, and a great broadsword hanging at my side in a belt, but without a scabbard.

Things going on thus for some time, I seemed, excepting these cautions, to be reduced to my former calm sedate way of living.

But my invention now ran quite another way; for night and day I could think of nothing but how I might

destroy some of these monsters in their cruel entertainment, and it would take up a larger volume than this to set down all the contrivances I hatched for the destroying these creatures, or at least frightening them, so as to prevent their coming hither any more; but nothing could be possible to take effect, unless I was to be there to do it myself.

Sometimes I proposed that I would place myself in ambush, in some convenient place, with my three guns all double loaded, and in the middle of their dreadful ceremony, let fly at them, when I should be sure to kill or wound perhaps two or three at every shot; and then, falling in upon them with my three pistols, and my sword, I made no doubt but that, if there were twenty, I should kill them all.

I went so far with it that I employed myself several days to find out proper places to put myself in ambuscade, as I said, to watch for them, and at length, I found a place in the side of the hill, where I was satisfied I might securely wait till I saw any of the boats coming, and might then, even before they would be ready to come on shore, convey myself unseen into the thickets of trees, in one of which there was a hollow large enough to conceal me entirely, where I might take my full aim at their heads, when they were so close together that it would be next to impossible that I could fail wounding three or four of them at the first shot.

In this place I resolved to fix my design; and accordingly, I prepared two muskets and my ordinary fowling-piece. Two muskets I loaded with a brace of slugs each, and four or five smaller bullets, about the size of pistol bullets, and the fowling-piece I loaded with near a handful of swan-shot, of the largest size. I also loaded my pistols with about four bullets each; and in this posture, well provided with ammunition for a second and third charge, I prepared myself for my expedition.

After I had thus laid the scheme of my design, and in my imagination put it in practice, I continually made my tour every morning up to the top of the hill, which was about three miles or more, to see if I could observe any boats upon the sea, coming near the island, or standing towards it; but I began to tire of this hard duty, after I had for two or three months constantly kept my watch

but came always back without any discovery, where having not in all that time been the least appearance, not only on or near the shore, but not on the whole ocean, so far as my eyes or glasses could reach every way.

After a time I began to be weary of the fruitless excursion which I had made so long and so far every morning, in vain, and to consider what it was I was going to engage in—what authority or call I had to pretend to be judge and executioner upon these men unless I had to do it, in defence of my own life.

For nearly a year after this I never once went up the hill to see whether there were any of them in sight, or to know whether any of them had been on shore there or not.

I kept myself more retired than ever, and seldom went from my cell, except to milk my she-goats, and manage my little flock in the wood, which, as it was on the other part of the island, was quite out of danger; for certain it is, that these savage people, who sometimes haunted this island, never came with any thoughts of finding anything here, and consequently never wandered off from the coast; and I doubt not but they might have been several times on shore, after my apprehensions of them had made me cautious, as well as before; and, indeed, I looked back with some horror upon the thoughts of what my condition would have been, if I had come upon them unarmed, except with one gun, and that loaded often only with small shot.

I confess that these anxieties, these constant dangers I lived in, and the concern that was now upon me, put an end to all invention, and to all the contrivances that I had laid for my future accommodations and conveniences. I had the care of my safety more now upon my hands than that of my food. I cared not to drive a nail, or chop a stick of wood now, for fear the noise I should make should be heard—much less would I fire a gun, for the same reason—and, above all, I was very uneasy at making any fire, lest the smoke, which is visible at a great distance in the day, should betray me; and, for this reason, I removed that part of my business which required fire, such as burning of pots and pipes, etc., into my new apartment in the wood; where, after I had been some time, I found, to my unspeakable consolation, a mere natural cave in the earth which went in a vast way, and where,

I dare say, no savage, had he been at the mouth of it, would be so hardy as to venture in, nor indeed would any man else, but one who, like me, wanted nothing so much as a safe retreat.

The mouth of this hollow was at the bottom of a great rock, where I was cutting down some thick branches of trees to make charcoal, as I was afraid of making a smoke about my habitation, and yet could not live there without baking my bread, cooking my meat, etc.; so I contrived to burn some wood here, as I had seen done in England, under turf, till it became dry coal; and then putting the fire out, I preserved the coal to carry home, and perform the other services which fire was wanted for at home, without danger or smoke.

While I was cutting down some wood here, I perceived that, behind a very thick branch of low brushwood or underwood, there was a kind of hollow place; I was curious to look into it, and getting with difficulty into the mouth of it, I found it was sufficient for me to stand upright in it; but I must confess to you I made more haste out than I did in, when, looking farther into the place, which was perfectly dark, I saw two great shining eyes of some creature, which twinkled like two stars, the dim light from the cave's mouth shining directly in and making the reflection.

After some pause, I recovered myself, and plucking up my courage, I took up a large firebrand, and in I rushed again, with the stick flaming in my hand; I had not gone three steps in, but I was almost as much frightened as I was before, for I heard a very loud sigh, like that of a man in some pain, and it was followed by a broken noise, as if of words half expressed, and then a deep sigh again. I stepped back, and was indeed struck with such a surprise that it put me into a cold sweat; and if I had had a hat on my head, I will not answer for it that my hair might not have lifted it off. But still plucking up my spirits as well as I could I stepped forward again, and by the light of the firebrand I saw lying on the ground a most monstrous frightful old he-goat, gasping for life, and dying, indeed, of mere old age.

I stirred him a little, to see if I could get him out, and he essayed to get up, but was not able to raise himself; and I thought he might even lie there, for if he had frightened

me so, he would certainly fright any of the savages if any of them should be so hardy as to come in there, while he had any life in him.

I had now recovered from my surprise, and began to look round me, when I found the cave was but very small; that is to say, it might be about twelve feet over, but in no manner of shape, either round or square, no hands having ever been employed in making it but those of nature. I observed also. that there was a place at the other side of it that went in farther, but so low that it required me to creep upon my hands and knees to get into it, and whither it went I knew not: so, having no candle, I gave it over for this time, but resolved to come again the next day, provided with candles and a tinder-box, which I had made of the lock of one of the muskets, with some wild-fire in the pan.

Accordingly, the next day I came provided with six large candles of my own making, for I made very good candles now of goats' tallow; and, going into this low place, I was obliged to creep upon all-fours, as I have said, almost ten yards, which, by the way, I thought was a venture bold enough, considering that I knew not how far it might go, or what was beyond it. When I was got through the strait, I found the roof rose higher up, I believe near twenty feet; but never was such a glorious sight seen on the island, I dare say, as it was, to look round the sides and roof of this cave. The walls reflected an hundred thousand lights to me from my two candles, though what it was in the rock, whether diamonds or any other precious stones, or gold, which I rather supposed it to be, I knew not.

The place I was in was the most delightful grotto as could be expected, though perfectly dark; the floor was dry and level, and had a sort of small loose gravel upon it, so that there was no nauseous creature to be seen; neither was there any damp on the sides of the roof: the only difficulty in it was the entrance, which, however, as it was a place of security, and such a retreat as I wanted, I thought that was a convenience, so that I was really rejoiced at the discovery, and resolved, without any delay, to bring some of those things which I was most anxious about to this place; particularly, I resolved to bring hither my magazine of powder, and all my spare arms,

namely, two fowling-pieces (for I had three in all), and three muskets (for of them I had eight in all); so I kept at my castle only five, which stood mounted, like pieces of cannon, on my outmost fence, and were ready also to take out upon any expedition.

Upon this occasion of removing my ammunition, I was obliged to open the barrel of powder which I took up out of the sea, and which had been wet, and I found that the water had penetrated about three or four inches into the powder on every side, which, caking and growing hard, had preserved the inside like a kernel in a shell, so that I had near sixty pounds of very good powder in the centre of the cask; and this was an agreeable discovery to me at that time: so I carried all away thither, never keeping above two or three pounds of powder with me in my castle, for fear of a surprise of any kind; I also carried thither all the lead I had left for bullets.

I fancied myself now like one of the ancient giants, which were said to live in caves in the rocks, where none could come at them; for, I persuaded myself, while I was here, if five hundred savages were to hunt me, they could never find me out; or if they did they would not venture to attack me.

The old goat which I found expiring died in the mouth of the cave the day after I made this discovery; and I found it much easier to dig a great hole there, and throw him in and cover him with earth, than to drag him out; so I interred him there, to prevent offence to my nose.

CHAPTER XIII

THE CANNIBALS RETURN TO THE ISLAND—A WRECK AT SEA

I WAS now in my twenty-third year of residence in this island, and was so naturalized to the place and to the manner of living that could I have but enjoyed the certainty that no savages would come to disturb me, I could have been content to have spent the rest of my time there, till I laid me down and died, like the old goat in the cave: I had also arrived at some little diversions and amusements,

which made the time pass more pleasantly with me than it did before. First, I had taught my Poll to speak, and he did it so familiarly, and talked so articulately, that it was very pleasant to me. He lived with me no less than six-and-twenty years, and perhaps may be alive there still, calling after Poor Robin Crusoe to this day. My dog was a very pleasant and loving companion to me for no less than sixteen years of my time, and then died of mere old age. As for my cats, they multiplied to such a degree that I was obliged to shoot several of them at first, to keep them from devouring me and all I had; but at length, after driving them from me, and letting them have no provision, they all ran wild into the woods, except two or three favourites, which I kept tame. Besides these, I always kept two or three household kids about me, which I taught to feed out of my hand; and I had also more parrots, which talked pretty well, and would all call Robin Crusoe, but none like my first; nor, indeed, did I take the pains with any of them that I had done with him. I had also several tame sea-fowls, whose names I know not, which I caught upon the shore, cutting their wings; and the little stakes which I had planted before my castle wall being now grown up to a good thick grove, these fowls all lived and bred there, which was very agreeable to me; so that I began to be very well contented with the life I led, if it might but have been secured from the dread of savages.

However frequently, in the course of our lives, the evil which in itself we seek most to shun, and which, when we are fallen into, is the most dreadful to us, is often-times the very means of our deliverance, by which alone we can be raised again from the affliction we are fallen into.

It was now the month of December, in my twenty-third year; and this being the southern solstice, was the time of my harvest, and required my being much abroad in the fields; when, going out early in the morning, before it was thorough daylight, I was surprised to see a light of some fire upon the shore, at a distance from me of about two miles, towards the end of the island where I had observed some savages had been, as before; not on the other side, but, to my great affliction, on my side of the island.

I was, indeed, terribly surprised at the sight, and

. . . he . . . laid his head upon the ground, and . . . set my foot upon his head.

[*see page 107*

stopped short within my grove, not daring to go out, lest I might be surprised; and yet I had no more peace within, from the apprehensions I had, that if these savages, in rambling over the island, should find my corn standing, or cut, or any of my works and improvements, they would immediately conclude that there were people in the place, and would then never give over till they found me out. In this extremity I went back directly to my castle, pulled up the ladder after me, having made all things without look as wild and natural as I could.

Then I prepared myself within, putting myself in a posture of defence: I loaded all my cannon, as I called them—that is to say, my muskets—which were mounted upon my fortification, and all my pistols, and resolved to defend myself to the last gasp; not forgetting seriously to recommend myself to the divine protection, and earnestly to pray to God to deliver me out of the hands of the barbarians; and in this posture I continued about two hours, but began to be mighty impatient for intelligence abroad, for I had no spies to send out.

After sitting a while longer, and musing what I should do, I was not able to bear sitting in ignorance longer; so, setting up my ladder to the side of the hill where there was a flat place, as I observed before, and then pulling the ladder up after me, I set it up again, and mounted to the top of the hill; and pulling out my perspective glass, which I had taken on purpose, I laid me down flat on my belly on the ground, and began to look for the place. I presently found there were no less than nine naked savages sitting round a small fire they had made; not to warm them—for they had no need of that, the weather being extremely hot—but, as I suppose, to dress some of their barbarous diet of human flesh which they had brought with them, whether alive or dead I could not know.

They had two canoes with them, which they had hauled up on the shore; and as it was then ebb-tide they seemed to me to wait the return of the flood to go away again. It is not easy to imagine what confusion this sight put me into, especially seeing them come on my side the island, and so near me too; but when I observed their coming must be always with the ebb-tide, I began afterwards to be more sedate in my mind, being satisfied that I might go abroad with safety all the time of flood-tide, if they

were not on shore before; and, having made this observation, I went about my harvest work with the more composure.

As I expected, so it proved; for as soon as the tide made to the westward, I saw them all take boat, and row away: I observed, that for an hour and more before they went off, they went to dancing, and I could easily discern their postures and gestures by my glasses: but whether they were men or women, I could not distinguish.

As soon as I saw them shipped and gone, I took two guns upon my shoulders, and two pistols at my girdle, and my great sword by my side, without a scabbard; and with all the speed I was able to make, I went away to the hill, where I had discovered the first appearance of all. As soon as I got thither, which was not less than two hours (for I could not go apace, being so loaded with arms as I was), I perceived there had been three canoes more of savages on that place; and looking out farther, I saw they were all at sea together, making over for the main.

This was a dreadful sight to me, especially when, going to the shore, I could see the marks of horror which the dismal work they had been about had left behind it.

It seemed evident to me, that the visits which they thus made to this island were not very frequent; for it was above fifteen months before any more of them came on shore there again. It is true, they might have been there once or twice, but either they made no stay, or at least I did not hear them.

The perturbation of my mind during this fifteen or sixteen months' interval was very great; I slept unquiet, and often started out of my sleep in the night: in the day great troubles overwhelmed my mind; in the night I dreamed often of killing the savages, and the reasons why I might justify the doing of it. But to waive all this for a while: it was in the middle of May, on the sixteenth day, I think, as well as my poor wooden calendar would reckon, for I marked all upon the post still—I say, it was on the sixteenth of May that it blew a great storm of wind all day, with a great deal of lightning and thunder, and a very foul night was after it: I know not what was the particular occasion of it; but as I was reading in the Bible, and taken up with serious thoughts about my present

condition, I was surprised with the noise of a gun, as I thought, fired at sea.

This was, to be sure, a surprise of a quite different nature from any I had met with before; for the notions this put into my thoughts were quite of another kind. I started up in the greatest haste imaginable; and, in a trice, clapped up my ladder to the middle place of the rock, and pulled it after me, and, mounting it the second time got to the top of the hill. At that moment a flash of fire bade me listen for a second gun, which accordingly, in a moment, I heard, and, by the sound, knew that it was from that part of the sea where I was driven out with the current in my boat.

I immediately considered that this must be some ship in distress, and that they had some other ship in company, and fired these guns for signals of distress, and to obtain help. I had this presence of mind that minute, as to think that though I could not help them, they might help me; so I brought together all the dry wood I could get at hand, and, making a good handsome pile, I set it on fire upon the hill. The wood blazed freely, and, though the wind blew very hard, yet it burnt fairly out, so that I was certain, if there was any such thing as a ship, they must needs see it; and no doubt they did, for as soon as ever my fire blazed up, I heard another gun, and after that several others, all from the same quarter. I plied my fire all night long till day broke; and when it was broad day, and the air cleared up, I saw something at a great distance at sea, full east of the island, whether a sail or a hull I could not distinguish, no, not with my glasses, the distance was so great, and the weather still somewhat hazy: at least out at sea.

I looked frequently at it all that day, and soon perceived that it did not move, so I presently concluded that it was a ship at anchor; and being eager, you may be sure, to be satisfied, I took my gun in my hand, and ran towards the south-east side of the island, to the rocks, where I had been formerly carried away with the current. Getting up there, the weather by this time being perfectly clear, I could plainly see, to my great sorrow, the wreck of a ship cast away in the night upon those concealed rocks which I found when I was out in my boat; and which rocks, as they checked the violence of the stream, and made a

counter-stream, or eddy, had been the occasion of my recovering from the most desperate condition that ever I had been in.

Thus, what is one man's safety is another man's destruction; for it seems these men had been driven upon them in the night, the wind blowing hard at east and east-north-east. Had they seen the island, as I suppose they did not, they must have endeavoured to have saved themselves on shore by the help of their boat; but the firing of their guns for help, especially when they saw my fire, filled me with many thoughts. First, I imagined that, upon seeing my light, they might have put themselves into their boat, and have endeavoured to make the shore, but that the sea going very high, they might have been cast away: other times I imagined, that they might have lost their boat before by the breaking of the sea upon their ship, which many times obliges men to stave or take to pieces their boat, and sometimes to throw it overboard with their own hand: other times I imagined they had some other ship or ships in company, who, upon the signals of distress they had made, had taken them up and carried them off: or were all gone off to sea in their boat, and being hurried away by the current that I had been formerly in, were carried out into the great ocean, where there was nothing but misery and perishing; and that perhaps they might, by this time, be starving, and in a condition to eat one another.

I cannot explain, by any possible energy of words, what a strange longing I felt in my soul upon this sight. In all the time of my solitary life, I never felt so earnest, so strong a desire after the society of my fellow-creatures, or so deep a regret at the want of it.

But it was not to be, for till the last year of my being on this island, I never knew whether any were saved out of that ship or no; and had only the affliction, some days after, to see the corpse of a drowned boy come on shore, at the end of the island which was next the shipwreck: he had on no clothes but a seaman's waistcoat, a pair of open-kneed linen drawers, and a blue linen shirt; but nothing to direct me so much as to guess what nation he was of. He had nothing in his pocket but two pieces of eight, and a tobacco pipe: the last was to me of ten times more value than the first.

It was now calm, and I had a great mind to venture out in my boat to this wreck, not doubting but I might find something on board that might be useful to me; but that did not altogether press me so much, as the possibility that there might yet be some living creature on board, whose life I might not only save, but might, by saving that life, comfort my own to the last degree: and this thought clung so to my heart, that I could not be quiet night or day, but I must venture out in my boat on board this wreck.

Under the power of this desire I hastened back to my castle, prepared everything for my voyage, took a quantity of bread, a great pot of fresh water, a compass to steer by, a bottle of rum (for I had still a great deal of that left), a basket full of raisins; and thus loading myself with everything necessary, I went down to my boat, got the water out of her, and got her afloat, loaded all my cargo in her, and then went home again for more: my second cargo was a great bagful of rice, the umbrella to set up over my head for a shade, another large potful of fresh water, and about two dozen of my small loaves, or barley-cakes, more than before, with a bottle of goat's milk, and a cheese; all which, with great labour and sweat, I brought to my boat; and, praying to God to direct my voyage, I put out, rowing the canoe along the shore, I came at last to the utmost point of the island, on that side, namely, north-east.

And now I was to launch out into the ocean, and either to venture or not to venture. I looked on the rapid currents which were very terrible to me, from the remembrance of the hazard I had been in before, and my heart began to fail me; for, as I was musing, I could perceive that the tide was turned, and my going was for so many hours impracticable; whereupon I resolved to set out the next morning with the first of the tide; and, reposing myself for that night in the canoe, under the great watch-coat I mentioned, I launched out. I made first a little out to sea full north, till I began to feel the benefit of the current, which set eastward, and carried me at a great rate, yet did not so hurry me as the southern side current had done before, as to take from me all government of the boat; but, having a strong steerage with my paddle, I went, at a great rate, directly for the wreck, and in less than two hours I came up to it.

It was a dismal sight to look at: the ship, which by its

building was Spanish, stuck fast, jammed in between two rocks and all the stern and quarter of her was beaten to pieces with the sea. When I came close to her, a dog appeared upon her, which, seeing me coming, yelped and cried, and as soon as I called him, jumped into the sea to come to me. I took him into the boat, almost dead with hunger and thirst, and gave him a cake of my bread, which he ate like a ravenous wolf that had been starving a fortnight in the snow; I then gave the poor creature some fresh water, with which, if I would have let him, he would have burst himself.

After this I went on board. The first sight I met with was two men drowned in the forecastle of the ship, with their arms fast about one another. I concluded, as is indeed probable, that when the ship struck, it being in a storm, the sea broke so high, and so continually over her, that the men were not able to bear it, and were strangled with the constant rushing in of the water, as much as if they had been under water. Besides the dog, there was nothing left in the ship that had life, nor any goods that I could see, but what was spoiled by the water: there were some casks of liquor, but they were too big to meddle with. I saw several chests, which I believed belonged to some of the seamen, and I got two of them into the boat without examining what was in them.

I found, besides these chests, a little cask full of liquor, of about twenty gallons, which I got into my boat with much difficulty. There were several muskets in the cabin, and a great powder-horn, with about four pounds of powder in it; as for the muskets, I had no occasion for them, so I left them, but took the powder-horn. I took a fire-shovel and tongs, which I wanted extremely, as also two little brass kettles, a copper-pot to make chocolate, and a gridiron; and with this cargo, and the dog, I came away, and the same evening I reached the island again, weary and fatigued to the last degree.

I reposed that night in the boat, and in the morning I resolved to harbour what I had got in my new cave, not to carry it home to my castle. After refreshing myself, I got all my cargo on shore, and began to examine the particulars; the cask of liquor I found to be a kind of rum, but not at all good: when I came to open the chests, I found several things which I wanted; for example, I

found in one some very good shirts, which were very welcome to me, and about a dozen and a half of white linen handkerchiefs and coloured neckcloths; the former were also very welcome, being exceedingly refreshing to wipe my face on a hot day. Besides this, when I came to the till in the chests, I found there three great bags of pieces of eight, eleven hundred pieces in all, six doubloons of gold, and some small bars of gold.

The other chest I found had some clothes in it, but of little value.

Upon the whole, I got very little by this voyage that was of much use to me; for, as to the money, I had no manner of occasion for it—it was to me as the dirt under my feet; and I would have given it all for three or four pair of English shoes and stockings, which were things I greatly wanted, but had not had on my feet now for many years.

Having now brought all my things on shore, I went back to my boat, and rowed her along the shore to her old harbour, where I laid her up, and made the best of my way to my old habitation. For a while I lived easy enough, only that I was more vigilant than I used to be, looked out oftener, and did not go abroad so much; and if at any time I did stir with any freedom, it was always to the east part of the island, where I was pretty well satisfied the savages never came.

CHAPTER XIV

ROBINSON DREAMS OF ESCAPING AND CAPTURES A SAVAGE

I LIVED in this condition near two years more, but my head was all this time filled with projects and designs how, if it were possible, I might get away from this island.

It is impossible to set down the innumerable crowd of thoughts that whirled through my brain during this period. I ran over the whole history of my life in miniature as I may call it, to my coming to this island. In my reflections upon the state of my case, since I came on shore on this island, I was comparing the happy posture of my affairs, in the first years of my habitation here, to that course of anxiety and care, which I had lived in ever since I had seen the print of a foot in the sand; not that I did not believe

the savages had frequented the island even all the while, but as I had never known it, I was as happy in my not knowing my danger, as if I had never really been exposed to it.

I reflected seriously upon the real danger I had been in for so many years; how I had walked about in the greatest security when, perhaps, nothing but a brow of a hill or the casual approach of night, had been between me and the worst kind of destruction. I should unjustly slander myself, if I should say I was not sincerely thankful to my great Preserver, to whose singular protection all these unknown deliverances were due.

When these thoughts were over, my head was for some time taken up in considering the nature of those wretched savages; and how it came to pass in the world, that the wise Governor of all things should give up any of His creatures to such inhumanity as to devour its own kind: but this ended in fruitless speculations. It occurred to me, however, that my only way to go about an attempt for an escape was to get a savage in my possession; if possible one of their prisoners whom they had brought hither to kill: but that it was impossible to effect this, without attacking a whole caravan of them, and killing them all; and this was not only a very desperate attempt but on the other hand, the thoughts of shedding human blood for my deliverance was very terrible to me.

At last, after many disputes with myself, and great perplexities about it, I resolved, if possible, to get one of these savages into my hand, cost what it would. The next thing, then, was to contrive how to do it, and I determined to put myself upon the watch to see them when they came on shore, and leave the rest to the event.

I set myself upon the scout till I was heartily tired of it, for no savages came near me for a great while.

About a year and a half after I had entertained these notions, I was surprised one morning early with seeing no less than five canoes all on shore together, on my side of the island, and the people who belonged to them all landed, and out of my sight. The number of them broke all my measures; for seeing so many, and knowing that they always come four, six, or sometimes more in a boat, I could not tell what to think of it, or how to take any measures to attack twenty or thirty men single-handed,

so, I lay still in my castle, perplexed and discomforted. However, I put myself into all the same postures for an attack that I had formerly provided, and was ready for action if anything had presented. Having waited a good while, listening to hear if they made any noise, I set my guns at the foot of my ladder, and clambered up to the top of the hill by my two stages, standing so, however, that my head did not appear above the hill, in order that they should not perceive me by any means. Here I observed, by the help of my perspective glass, that they were no less than thirty in number; that they had a fire kindled, and were all dancing in I know not how many barbarous gestures and figures round the fire.

While I was thus looking on them, I perceived two miserable wretches dragged from the boats, where, it seems they had been laid by, and were now brought out for the slaughter: I perceived one of them immediately fall, being knocked down, I suppose, with a club, for that was their way; and two or three others were at work immediately, cutting him open for their cookery, while the other victim was left standing by himself, till they should be ready for him. At that very moment, this poor wretch, seeing himself a little at liberty, nature inspired him with hopes of life, and he started away from them, running with incredible swiftness along the sands, directly towards that part of the coast where my habitation was.

I was dreadfully frightened, I must acknowledge, when I perceived him running my way, and especially when, as I thought, I saw him pursued by the whole body. However, I kept my station, and my spirits began to recover, when I found that there were but three men that followed him; and still more was I encouraged when I found that he outstripped them exceedingly in running, and gained ground of them—so that if he could but hold it for half an hour, I saw easily he would fairly get away from them all.

There was between them and my castle the creek, and this I knew he must necessarily swim over, or the poor wretch would be taken there: but when the escaping savage came thither, he made nothing of it, though the tide was then up; but plunging in, swam in about thirty strokes or thereabouts, landed, and ran on with exceeding strength and swiftness. When the three pursuers came to the creek, I found that two of them could swim, but the

third could not, and that he, after looking at the others, went no farther, but back again, which, as it happened, was very well for him.

I observed, that the two who swam were more than twice as long swimming over the creek as the fellow was that fled from them. It came upon my thoughts that now was my time to get a servant, and perhaps a companion and that I was called plainly by Providence to save this poor creature's life. I immediately got down the ladders with all possible expedition, fetched my two guns, for they were both at the foot of the ladder, and getting up again with the same haste to the top of the hill, I crossed towards the sea. Having a very short cut, and all down hill, I thrust myself between the pursuers and the pursued, hallooing aloud to him that fled, who, looking back, was at first perhaps as much frightened at me as at them; but I beckoned with my hand to him to come back—and in the meantime I slowly advanced towards the two that followed—then rushing at once upon the foremost, I knocked him down with the stock of my piece. I was loth to fire, because I would not have the rest hear, though at that distance it would not have been easily heard, and being out of sight of the smoke too, they would not have easily known what to make of it. Having knocked this fellow down, the other who pursued him stopped, as if he had been frightened, and I advanced apace towards him; but as I came nearer, I perceived presently he had a bow and arrow, and was fitting it to shoot at me; so I was then necessitated to shoot at him first, which I did, and killed him at the first shot. The poor savage who fled, but had stopped, though he saw both his enemies fallen and killed as he thought, yet was so frightened with the fire and noise of my piece, that he stood stock-still, and neither came forward nor went backward, though he seemed rather inclined to fly still than to come on. I hallooed again to him, and made signs to come forward, which he easily understood, and came a little way, then stopped again, and then a little farther, and stopped again; and I could then perceive that he stood trembling, as if he had been taken prisoner, and was about to be killed, as his two enemies were. I beckoned him again to come to me, and gave him all the signs of encouragement that I could think of; and he came nearer and nearer, kneeling down

every ten or twelve steps, in token of acknowledgment for saving his life. I smiled at him, and looked pleasantly, and beckoned to him to come still nearer. At length he came close to me, and then he kneeled down again, kissed the ground, and laid his head upon the ground, and, taking me by the foot, set my foot upon his head. This, it seems, was in token of swearing to be my slave for ever. I took him up, and made much of him, and encouraged him all I could. But there was more work to do yet; for I perceived the savage whom I knocked down was not killed, but stunned with the blow, and began to come to himself: so I pointed to him, and showed him the savage, that he was not dead; upon this he spoke some words to me, and though I could not understand them, yet I thought they were pleasant to hear, for they were the first sound of a man's voice that I had heard, my own excepted, for about five-and-twenty years. But there was no time for such reflections now: the savage, who was knocked down, recovered himself so far as to sit up upon the ground; and I perceived that my savage began to be afraid; but when I saw that, I presented my other piece at the man, as if I would shoot him: upon this my savage, for so I called him now, made a motion to me to lend him my sword, which hung naked in a belt by my side—so I did: he no sooner had it, but he runs to his enemy, and at one blow cuts off his head so cleverly, no executioner could have done it sooner or better, which I thought very strange for one who, I had reason to believe, never saw sword in his life before, except their own wooden swords: however, it seems, as I learned afterwards, they make their wooden swords so sharp, so heavy, and the wood is so hard that they will cut off heads even with them—aye, and arms, and that at one blow too. When he had done this, he comes laughing to me in sign of triumph and brought me the sword again, and, with abundance of gestures, which I did not understand, laid it down, with the head of the savage that he had killed, just before me.

But that which astonished him most was, to know how I had killed the other Indian so far off; so, pointing to him, he made signs to me to let him go to him; so I bade him go, as well as I could. When he came to him, he stood like one amazed, looking at him—turned him first on one side, then on the other—looked at the wound the

bullet had made, which, it seems, was just in his breast, where it made a hole, and no great quantity of blood had followed; but he had bled inwardly, for he was quite dead. Then he took up his bow and arrows, and came back; so I turned to go away, and beckoned him to follow me, making signs to him that more might come after them.

Upon this he signed to me that he should bury them with sand, that they might not be seen by the rest, if they followed; so I made signs to him to do so. He fell to work, and in a few moments he had scraped a hole in the sand with his hands, big enough to bury the first in, and then dragged him into it, and covered him, and did so also by the other; I believe he had buried them both in a quarter of an hour. Then calling him away, I carried him not to my castle, but quite away to my cave, on the farther part of the island.

Here I gave him bread and a bunch of raisins to eat, and a draught of water, which I found he was, indeed, in great distress for, by his running; and, having refreshed him, I made signs for him to go lie down and sleep, pointing to a place where I had laid a great parcel of rice-straw, and a blanket upon it, which I used to sleep upon myself sometimes; so the poor creature lay down, and went to sleep.

He was a comely, handsome fellow, well-made, with straight long limbs, not too large, tall, and well-shaped, and, as I reckon, about twenty-six years of age. He had a very good countenance, not a fierce and surly aspect, but seemed to have something very manly in his face, and yet he had all the sweetness and softness of an European in his countenance, too, especially when he smiled: his hair was long and black, not curled like wool; his forehead very high and large, and a great vivacity and sparkling sharpness in his eyes. The colour of his skin was not quite black, but very tawny, and yet not an ugly yellow as the Brazilians, and Virginians, and other natives of America are, but of a bright olive-colour, that had in it something very agreeable, although not very easy to describe. His face was round and plump, his nose small, not flat like the negroes, a very good mouth, thin lips, and his teeth fine, well set, and white as ivory. After he had slept, above half an hour, he waked again, and comes out of the cave to me, for I had been milking my goats,

which I had in the enclosure just by: when he espied me, he came running to me, laying himself down again upon the ground, with all the possible signs of an humble, thankful disposition, making many antic gestures to show it. At last he lays his head flat upon the ground, close to my foot, and sets my other foot upon his head, as he had done before; and, after this, made all the signs to me of subjection, servitude, and submission imaginable, to let me know how much he would serve me as long as he lived. I understood him in many things, and let him know I was very well pleased with him. In a little time I began to speak to him, and teach him to speak to me; and, first, I made him know his name should be Friday, which was the day I saved his life, and I called him so for the memory of the time: I likewise taught him to say Master, and then let him know that was to be my name: I likewise taught him to say Yes and No, and to know the meaning of them. I gave him some milk in an earthen pot, and let him see me drink it before him, and sop my bread in it; and I gave him a cake of bread to do the like, which he quickly complied with, and made signs that it was very good.

I kept there with him all that night; but as soon as it was day, I beckoned him to come with me, and let him know I would give him some clothes, at which he seemed very glad, for he was stark naked. As we went by the place where he had buried the two men, he pointed exactly to the spot, and showed me the marks that he had made to find them again, making signs to me that we should dig them up again and eat them: at this I appeared very angry, expressed my abhorrence of it, and beckoned with my hand to him to come away, which he did immediately, with great submission. I then led him up to the top of the hill, to see if his enemies were gone, and pulling out my glass, I looked, and saw plainly the place where they had been, but no appearance of them or of their canoes; so that it was plain that they were gone, and had left their two comrades behind them, without any search after them.

But I was not content with this discovery: but having now more courage, and, consequently, more curiosity, I took my man Friday with me, giving him the sword in his hand, with the bow and arrows at his back, which I found

he could use very dexterously, making him carry one gun for me, and I two for myself, and away we marched to the places where these creatures had been; for I had a mind now to get some fuller intelligence of them. When I came to the place, my very blood ran chill in my veins, and my heart sank within me, at the horror of the spectacle: indeed, it was a dreadful sight, at least it was so to me, though Friday made nothing of it. The place was covered with human bones, the ground dyed with blood, great pieces of flesh left here and there, half eaten, mangled, and scorched; and, in short, all the tokens of the triumphant feast they had been making there, after a victory over their enemies. I saw three skulls, five hands, and the bones of three or four legs and feet, and abundance of other parts of the bodies; and Friday, by his signs, made me understand, that they brought over four prisoners to feast upon; that three of them were eaten up, and that he, pointing to himself, was the fourth; that there had been a great battle between them and their next king, one of whose subjects, it seems, he had been; and that they had taken a great number of prisoners, all which were carried to several places by those that had taken them in the fight, in order to feast upon them, as was done here by these wretches upon those they brought hither.

I caused Friday to gather all the skulls, bones, flesh, and whatever remained, and lay them together on a heap, and make a great fire upon it, and burn them all to ashes. I found Friday had still a hankering after some of the flesh, and was still a cannibal in his nature; but I discovered so much abhorrence at the least appearance of it, that he durst not discover it; for I had, by some means, let him know that I would kill him if he offered it.

When we had done this, we came back to our castle, and there I fell to work for my man Friday. First of all, I gave him a pair of linen drawers, which I had found in the wreck; and which, with a little alteration, fitted him very well; then I made him a jerkin of goat's skin, as well as my skill would allow, for I was now grown a tolerably good tailor. I gave him a cap, which I made of a hare's skin, very convenient, and fashionable enough: and thus he was dressed, for the present, tolerably well, and mightily was he pleased to see himself almost as well clothed as his master. It is true, he went awkwardly in these things at

first; wearing the drawers was very awkward to him, and the sleeves of the waistcoat galled his shoulders and the inside of his arms; but after I had eased them a little where he complained they hurt him, and using himself to them, at length he took to them very well.

The next day after I came home with him, I began to consider where I should lodge him; and that I might do well for him, and yet be perfectly easy myself, I made a little tent for him in the vacant place between my two fortifications, inside the last, and outside the first: and as there was an entrance there into my cave, I made a framed door-case, and a door to it of boards, and set it up in the passage, a little within the entrance; and, causing the door to open on the inside, I barred it up in the night, taking in my ladders too; so that Friday could no way come at me in the inside of my innermost wall, without making so much noise in getting over, that it must needs awaken me. My first wall had now a complete roof over it of long poles, covering all my tent, and leaning up to the side of the hill, which was again laid across with small sticks instead of laths, and then thatched over a great thickness with rice straw, which was as strong as reeds; and at the hole or place which was left to go in or out by the ladder, I had placed a kind of trap-door, which if it had been attempted on the outside, would not have opened at all, but would have fallen down, and made a great noise; and as to weapons, I took them all into my side every night.

But I needed none of all this precaution; for never man had a more faithful, loving, sincere servant, than Friday was to me; without passions, sullenness, or designs; perfectly obliging and engaging: his very affections were tied to me like those of a child to a father: and I dare say he would have sacrificed his life for the saving mine, upon any occasion whatsoever: indeed the many testimonies he gave me of this put it out of doubt, and soon convinced me, that I needed to use no precautions as to my safety on his account.

I was greatly delighted with him, and made it my business to teach him everything that was proper to make himself useful, handy and helpful, but especially to make him speak, and understand me when I spoke: and he was the aptest scholar that ever was; so merry, so constantly

diligent, and so pleased when he could but understand me, or make me understand him, that it was very pleasant to me to talk to him. Now my life began to be so easy, that I said to myself, that could I but have been safe from more savages, I cared not if I never was to remove from the place where I lived.

CHAPTER XV

ROBINSON IS DELIGHTED WITH HIS CAPTURE WHOM HE TEACHES TO ASSIST HIM

After I had been two or three days returned to my castle, I thought, that in order to bring Friday off from his horrid way of feeding I ought to let him taste other flesh; so I took him out with me one morning to the woods. I went, indeed, intending to kill a kid out of my own flock, and bring it home and dress it; but as I was going, I saw a she-goat lying down in the shade, and two young kids sitting by her. I catched hold of Friday: "Hold," said I, "stand still"; and made signs to him not to stir. Immediately I presented my piece, shot, and killed one of the kids. The poor creature, who had at a distance indeed seen me kill the savage his enemy, but did not know, nor could imagine how it was done, was surprised, trembled and looked so amazed, that I thought he would have sunk down: he did not see the kid I had shot at, nor perceived that I had killed it, but ripped up his waistcoat to feel if he was not wounded; and thought I was resolved to kill him, for he came and kneeled down to me, and embracing my knees, said a great many things I did not understand; but I could easily see that his meaning was to pray me not to kill him.

I soon found a way to convince him that I would do him no harm; and taking him up by the hand, laughed at him, and pointing to the kid which I had killed, beckoned to him to run and fetch it, which he did; and while he was wondering and looking to see how the creature was killed, I loaded my gun again, and by-and-by I saw a great parrot sit upon a tree within shot; so to let Friday understand a little what I would do, I called him to me again, pointing to the parrot, and to my gun, and then to the ground under

I . . . discovered a ship lying at anchor . . .

[*see page 139*

the parrot, to let him see that I would make him fall, I made him understand that I would shoot and kill that bird; accordingly, I fired, and bid him look, and immediately he saw the parrot fall. He stood like one affrighted again, nothwithstanding all that I had said to him; and I found he was the more amazed, because he did not see me put anything into the gun, but thought there must be some wonderful fund of death and destruction in that thing, able to kill man, beast, bird or anything, near or far off. The astonishment this created in him was such as could not wear off for a long time: and I believe, if I would have let him, he would have worshipped me and my gun. As for the gun itself, he would not so much as touch it for several days after, but would speak to it, when he was by himself (as I afterwards learned of him) to desire it not to kill him.

After his astonishment at this was a little over, I pointed to him to run and fetch the bird I had shot, which he did, and as I had perceived his ignorance about the gun before, I took this advantage to charge the gun again, and not to let him see me do it, that I might be ready for any other mark that might present; but nothing else offered at that time: so I brought home the kid; and the same evening I took the skin off, and cut it out as well as I could, and having a pot for that purpose, I stewed some of the flesh, and made some very good broth. After I had begun to eat some, I gave some to my man, who seemed very glad of it, and liked it very well; but that which was strangest to him was, to see me eat salt with it. He made a sign to me that the salt was not good to eat; and putting a little into his own mouth, he seemed to nauseate it, and would sputter at it, washing his mouth with fresh water after it. On the other hand, I took some meat in my mouth without salt, and I pretended to sputter for want of salt, as fast as he had done at the salt; but it would not do, he would never care for salt with meat, or in his broth; at least not for a great while, and then but a very little.

Having thus fed him with boiled meat and broth, I was resolved to feast him the next day with roasting a piece of the kid: this I did by hanging it before the fire in a string, as I had seen many people do in England, setting two poles up, one on each side of a fire and one cross on the top, and tying the string to the cross stick, letting the meat

turn continually. Friday admired this very much; but when he came to taste the flesh, he took so many ways to tell me how well he liked it, that I could not but understand him; and at last he told me he would never eat man's flesh any more, which I was very glad to hear.

The next day I set him to work beating some corn out, and sifting it in the manner I used to do and he soon understood how to do it as well as I, especially after he had seen what the meaning of it was, and that it was to make bread of. After that I let him see me make my bread, and bake it too; and in a little time Friday was able to do all the work for me, as well as I could do it myself.

I began now to consider, that, having two mouths to feed instead of one, I must provide more ground for my harvest, and plant a larger quantity of corn than I used to do; so I marked out a larger piece of land, and began the fence in the same manner as before, in which Friday not only worked very willingly and very hard, but did it very cheerfully. I told him that it was for corn to make more bread, because he was now with me, that I might have enough for him and myself too, and he appeared very sensible of that part, letting me know that he thought I had much more labour upon me on his account than I had for myself, and that he would work the harder for me, if I would tell him what to do.

This was the pleasantest year of all the life I led in this place. Friday began to talk pretty well, and understood the names of almost everything I had occasion to call for, and of every place I had to send him to, and talk a great deal to me; so that I began now to have some use for my tongue again. Beside the pleasure of talking to him, I had a singular satisfaction in the fellow himself: his simple unfeigned honesty appeared to me more and more every day, and I began really to love the creature; while on his side, I believe, he loved me more than ever it was possible for him to love anything before.

I had a mind once to try if he had any hankering inclination to his own country again; and having taught him English so well, that he could answer me almost any questions, I asked him, whether the nation that he belonged to never conquered in battle? At which he smiled, and said, "Yes, yes, we always fight the better"—that is, he meant, always get the better in fight—and so we began the

following discourse:—"You always fight the better!" said I: "how came you to be taken prisoner, then, Friday?"

Friday. My nation beat much for all that.

Master. How beat? If your nation beat them, how came you to be taken?

Friday. They more than my nation in the place where me was; they take one, two, three, and me: my nation overbeat them in the yonder place, where me no was; there my nation take one, two great thousand.

Master. But why did not your side recover you from the hands of your enemies then?

Friday. They run, one, two, three, and me, and make go in the canoe; my nation have no canoe that time.

Master. Well, Friday, and what does your nation do with the men they take? Do they carry them away, and eat them as these did?

Friday. Yes, my nation eat mans too, eat all up.

Master. Where do they carry them?

Friday. Go to other place where they think.

Master. Do they come hither?

Friday. Yes, yes, they come hither; come other else place.

Master. Have you been here with them?

Friday. Yes, I have been here [points to the north-west side of the island, which, it seems, was their side].

By this I understood, that my man Friday had formerly been among the savages who used to come on shore on the farther part of the island, on the man-eating occasions for which he himself was now brought; and some time after, when I took the courage to carry him to that side he presently knew the place, and told me, he was there once, when they ate up twenty men, two women, and once child: he could not tell twenty in English, but he numbered them by laying so many stones in a row, and pointing to me to tell them over.

I have told this passage because it introduces what follows; that after I had had this discourse with him, I asked him how far it was from our island to the shore, and whether the canoes were not often lost. He told me that there was no danger; no canoes were ever lost, but that a little way out to sea, there was a current and a wind always one way in the morning, the other in the afternoon.

This I understood to be no more than the sets of the tide, as going out, or coming in; but I afterwards learned that it was occasioned by the great draught and reflux of the mighty river Orinoco, in the mouth of which, as I thought afterwards, our island lay; and that this land which I perceived to the west and north-west, was the great island of Trinidad, on the north point of the mouth of the river. I asked Friday a thousand questions about the country, the inhabitants, the sea, the coast, and what nations were near—he told me all he knew with the greatest openness imaginable. I asked him the names of the several nations of his people, but could get no other name than Caribs; from whence I easily understood, that these were the Caribbee Islands or lesser Antilles, which our maps place on that part of America which reaches from the mouth of the river Orinoco to Guinea, and onwards to St. Martha. He told me, that up a great way beyond the moon—that was, beyond the setting of the moon, which must be west from their country—there dwelt white-bearded men, like me, and pointed to my great whiskers, which I mentioned before; and that they had killed much mans—that was his word—by which I understood he meant the Spaniards, whose cruelties in America had been spread over whole countries, and were remembered by all the nations from father to son.

I inquired if he could tell me how I might come from this island, and get among those white men; he told me, "Yes, yes, I might go into two canoe." I could not understand what he meant by two canoe; till at last, with great difficulty, I found he meant, that it must be in a large great boat as big as two canoes.

This part of Friday's discourse impressed me very well; and from this time I entertained some hopes, that one time or other I might find an opportunity to make my escape from this place, and that this poor savage might be a means to help me to do it.

During the long time that Friday had now been with me, and that he began to speak to me, and understand me, I was not wanting to lay a foundation of religious knowledge in his mind; particularly I asked him one time, Who made him? The poor creature did not understand me at all, but thought I had asked who was his father; but I took it by another handle, and asked him, Who made the sea,

the ground he walked on, and the hills and woods? He told me it was one old Benamuckee, that lived beyond all: he could describe nothing of this great person, but that he was very old—much older, he said, than the sea or the land, than the moon or the stars. I asked him then, if this old person had made all things, why did not all things worship him? He looked very grave, and, with a perfect look of innocence, said, All things said O! to him. I asked him if the people who die in his country went away anywhere? He said, Yes, they all went to Benamuckee. Then I asked him whether those they ate up went thither too? He said, Yes.

From these things I began to instruct him in the knowledge of the true God. I told him, that the great Maker of all things lived there, pointing up towards heaven; that He governs the world by the same power and providence by which He made it; that He was omnipotent, could do everything for us, give everything to us, take everything from us: and thus, by degrees, I opened his eyes. He listened with great attention, and received with pleasure the notion of Jesus Christ being sent to redeem us, and of the manner of making our prayers to God, and His being able to hear us, even in heaven; he told me one day, that if our God could hear us beyond the sun, He must needs be a greater god than their Benamuckee, who lived but a little way off, and yet could not hear, till they went up to the great mountains, where he dwelt, to speak to him. I asked him if, ever he went thither to speak to him? He said, No, they never went that were young men; none went thither but the old men, whom they called their Oowookakee; that is, as I made him explain it to me, their clergy; and that they went to say O! (so he called saying prayers), and then came back, and told them what Benamuckee said. By this I observed, that there is priestcraft even among the most blinded ignorant Pagans in the world: and I endeavoured to clear up this fraud to my man Friday, and telling him, that the pretence of their old men going up to the mountains to say O! to their god Benamuckee, was a cheat; and that their bringing word from thence what he said, was much more so; that if they met with any answer, or spoke with any one there, it must be with an evil spirit: and then I entered into a long discourse with him about the devil,

his rebellion against God, his enmity to man, and the many stratagems he made use of to delude mankind to their ruin.

I found it was not so easy to imprint right notions in his mind about the devil, as it was about the being of a God: nature assisted all my arguments to evidence to him the necessity for a great First Cause, and overruling governing Power, and the like; but there appeared nothing of all this on the notion of an evil spirit, of his origin, nature, and, above all, of his inclination to do evil.

I had been talking a great deal to him of the power of God, His omnipotence, His dreadful aversion to sin; how as He had made us all, He could destroy us, and all the world, in a moment: and he listened with great seriousness to me all the while. After this, I had been telling him how the devil was God's enemy in the hearts of men, and used all his malice and skill to defeat the good designs of Providence. "Well," says Friday, "but you say God is so strong, so great, is He not much strong, much might, as the devil?" "Yes, yes," said I, "Friday, God is stronger than the devil; God is above the devil; and therefore we pray to God to tread him under our feet, and enable us to resist his temptations." "But," says he, again, "if God much strong, much might, as the devil, why God not kill the devil, so make him no more wicked?"

I was strangely surprised at his question; and, after all, though I was now an old man, yet I was but a young doctor, and ill enough qualified for a casuist, or a solver of difficulties. "You may as well ask me," said I, "why God does not kill you and me—when we do wicked things here that offend Him: we are preserved to repent and be pardoned." He muses a while at this. "Well, well," says he, mighty affectionately, "that well: so you, I, devil, all wicked, all preserve, repent, God pardon all."

I diverted the present discourse between me and my man, rising up hastily, as upon some sudden occasion of going out; then sending him for something a great way off, I seriously prayed to God that he would, through Christ, guide me to speak so to him that his conscience might be convinced, his eyes opened, and his soul saved.

I had, God knows, more sincerity than knowledge in all the methods I took for this poor creature's instruction; and must acknowledge, what I believe all that act upon the same principle will find, that in laying things open to

Him, I really informed and instructed myself in many things that either I did not know, or had not fully considered before, but which occurred naturally to my mind upon my searching into them for the information of this poor savage: and I had more affection in my inquiry after things upon this occasion than ever I felt before; so that, whether this poor wild wretch was the better for me or no, I had great reason to be thankful that ever he came to me. My grief sat lighter upon me, my habitation grew comfortable to me beyond measure; and when I reflected that in this solitary life to which I had been confined, I had not only been moved myself, to look up to Heaven, and to seek the hand that had brought me thither, but was now to be made an instrument, under Providence, to save the life, and, for aught I knew, the soul, of a poor savage, and bring him to the true knowledge of religion, that he might know Jesus Christ. When I reflected upon all these things, a secret joy ran through every part of my soul, and I frequently rejoiced that I was brought to this place, which I had often thought the most dreadful of all afflictions that could possibly have befallen me.

In this thankful frame I continued all the remainder of my time; and the conversation which employed the hours between Friday and me was such as made the three years which we lived there together perfectly and completely happy, if any such thing as complete happiness can be found.

After, Friday could understand almost all I said to him, and speak fluently, though in broken English, to me, I acquainted him with my own story, or at least so much of it as related to my coming into the place, how I had lived there, and how long: I let him into the mystery, for such as it was to him, of gunpowder and bullets, and taught him how to shoot: I gave him a knife, with which he was wonderfully delighted; and I made him a belt with a frog hanging to it, such as in England we wear hangers in; and in the frog, instead of a hanger, I gave him a hatchet, which was not only as good a weapon in some cases, but much more useful upon many occasions.

I described to him the countries of Europe, and particularly England, which I came from; how we lived, how we worshipped God, how we behaved to one another, and how we traded in ships to all parts of the world.

I gave him an account of the wreck which I had been on board of, and showed him, as near as I could, the place where she lay; but she was all beaten in pieces long before, and quite gone.

I showed him the ruins of our boat, which we lost when we escaped, and which was now fallen almost all to pieces. Upon seeing this boat, Friday stood musing a great while, and at last said, "Me see such boat like come to place at my nation."

I did not understand him for a good while; but at last, when I had examined farther into it, I understood by him that a boat, such as that had been driven on shore in the country where he lived. I imagined that some European ship must have been cast away upon their coast, but never thought of men making escape from a wreck thither, so I only inquired after a description of the boat.

Friday described the boat to me well enough; but brought me better to understand him, when he added, with some warmth, "We save the white mans from drown." Then I presently asked him, if there were any white mans, as he called them, in the boat? "Yes," he said, "the boat full of white mans." I asked him, how many? He told upon his fingers seventeen. I asked him, what became of them? He told me, "They live at my nation."

This put new thoughts into my head again; for I presently imagined, that these might be men belonging to the ship that was cast away in sight of my island, as I now called it; and, who, after the ship was struck on the rock, and they saw her inevitably lost, had saved themselves in their boat, and were landed upon that wild shore among the savages.

Upon this I inquired of him more critically, what was become of them? He assured me they lived still there, that they had been there about four years, that the savages let them alone, and gave them victuals to live. I asked him how it came to pass they did not kill them, and eat them? He said, "No, they make brother with them" —that is, as I understood him, a truce: and then he added, "They eat no mans but when make the war fight"—that is to say, they never eat any men but such as come to fight with them, and are taken in battle.

It was after this some considerable time, that being on the top of the hill, at the east side of the island, from

whence, as I have said, I had in a clear day discovered the main or continent of America, Friday, the weather being very serene, looks very earnestly towards the mainland, and, in a kind of surprise, falls a-jumping and dancing, and calls out to me, for I was at some distance from him: I asked him what was the matter? "Oh, joy!" says he, "Oh, glad! there see my country, there my nation!"

I observed an extraordinary sense of pleasure appeared in his face, and his eyes sparkled as if he had a mind to be in his own country again, which made me at first not so easy about my new man Friday as I was before; and I made no doubt but that if Friday could get back to his own nation, he would not only forget all his religion, but all his obligations to me: and would be forward enough to give his countrymen an account of me, and come back, perhaps, with a hundred or two of them, and make a feast upon me.

But I wronged the poor honest creature very much, for which I was very sorry afterwards.

One day, walking up the same hill, I called to him, and said, "Friday, do not you wish yourself in your own country, your own nation?" "Yes," he said, "I be much O glad to be at my own nation." "What would you do there?" said I; "would you turn wild again, eat men's flesh again, and be a savage as you were before?" He looked full of concern, and, shaking his head, said, "No, no! Friday tell them to live good, tell them to pray God, tell them to eat corn bread, cattle flesh, milk, no eat man again." "Why, then," said I to him, "they will kill you!" He looked grave at that, and then said, "No, they no kill me; they learn." Then I asked him if he would go back to them? He told me he would go, if I would go with him. "I go!" said I, "why, they will eat me if I come there!" "No, no!" says he, "me make them no eat you, me make they much love you." Then he told me how kind they were to seventeen white men, or bearded men, as he called them, who came on shore in distress.

From this time, I confess, I had a mind to venture over, and see if I could possibly join with these bearded men, who, I made no doubt, were Spaniards or Portuguese; believing that, if I could, we might find some method to

escape from thence, better than I could from an island forty miles off the shore, and alone without help. So I told him I would give him a boat to go back to his own nation; and accordingly, I shewed him my frigate, which lay on the other side of the island. We both went into it, and I found that he was a most dexterous fellow at managing it, making it go almost as swift and fast again as I could; so I said to him, "Well, now, Friday, shall we go to your nation?" He thought the boat too small to go so far, so I went to the place where the first boat lay which I had made, but which I could not get into the water. He said that was big enough; but then the sun had so split and dried it, that it was no longer seaworthy. However, Friday told me such a boat would do very well, and would carry "much enough vittle, drink, bread" —that was his way of talking.

CHAPTER XVI

FRIDAY HELPS ROBINSON TO BUILD A CANOE—THEY RESCUE TWO VICTIMS FROM CANNIBALS

I WAS by this time so fixed upon my design of going over with him to the continent, that I told him we would make one as big as that, and he should go home in it. He answered not one word, but looked very grave and sad. I asked him what was the matter with him? He asked me again, thus, "Why you angry mad with Friday? what me done?" I told him I was not angry with him at all. "No angry: no angry!" says he, repeating the words several times; "why send Friday home away to my nation?" "Why," said I, "Friday, did you not say you wished you were there?" "Yes, yes," says he, "wish we both there; no wish Friday there, no master there." In a word, he would not think of going there without me. "I go there, Friday!" said I; "what should I do there?" He turned very quick upon me at this. "You do great deal much good," says he; "you teach wild mans to be good, tame mans; you tell them pray God, and live new life." "Alas, Friday," said I, "thou knowest not what thou sayest; I am but an ignorant man myself." "Yes, yes," says he, "you teechee me

good, you teechee them good." "No, no, Friday," said I, "you shall go without me; leave me here to live by myself, as I did before." He looked confused again at that, and running to one of the hatchets which he used to wear, he takes it up hastily, and gives it me. "What must I do with this?" said I to him. "You take kill Friday," says he. "What must I kill you for?" said I again. He returns very quick, "What you send Friday away for? Take kill Friday, no send Friday away." This he spoke so earnestly, that I saw tears stand in his eyes, and I told him then, and often after, that I would not send him away from me, if he was willing to stay with me.

Upon the whole, as I found by his discourse a settled affection to me, and that nothing should part him from me, so I found all the foundation of his desire to go to his own country, was laid in his ardent affection to the people and his hopes of my doing them good—a thing which I had not the least intention, or desire of undertaking. But still I found a strong inclination to my attempting an escape, founded on the supposition that there were seventeen bearded men there; and therefore I went to work with Friday, to find out a great tree proper to fell, and make a large canoe, to undertake the voyage. There were trees enough in the island to have built a little fleet of good large vessels: but the main thing I looked at, was to get one so near the water that we might launch it when it was made, to avoid the mistake I committed at first.

At last Friday pitched upon a tree, for I found he knew much better than I what kind of wood was fittest for it; nor can I tell to this day what wood to call the tree we cut down. Friday was for burning the hollow or cavity of this tree out, to make it into a boat: but I showed him how rather to cut it out with tools, which he did very handily; and in about a month's hard labour we finished it, and made it very handsome, especially when, with our axes, which I showed him how to handle, we cut and hewed the outside into the true shape of a boat. After this, however, it cost us near a fortnight's time to get her along, as it were, inch by inch, upon great rollers, into the water; but when she was in, she would have carried twenty men with great ease.

When she was in the water, though she was so big, it amazed me to see with what dexterity Friday could manage her, so I asked him if we might venture over in her? "Yes," he said, "he venture over in her very well, though great blow wind." However, I had a further design which he knew nothing of, and that was, to make a mast and sail, and to fit her with an anchor and cable.

I was near two months performing this last work, for I finished them very complete, making a small stay, and a sail or foresail to it, to assist if we should turn to windward; and, which was more than all, I fixed a rudder to the stern of her, to steer with; and though I was but a bungling shipwright, yet as I knew the usefulness, and even necessity of such a thing, I applied myself with so much pains to do it, that at last I brought it to pass, though I think it cost me almost as much labour as making the boat.

After all this was done, I had my man Friday to teach as to what belonged to the navigation of my boat; for though he knew very well how to paddle the canoe, he knew nothing of what belonged to a sail and a rudder, and was the more amazed when he saw me work the boat to and again in the sea by the rudder, and how the sail jibbed and filled this way or that way, as we changed our course. However, I made all these things familiar to him, and he became an expert sailor.

The rainy season was in the meantime upon me, when I kept more within doors than at other times; so I stowed our new vessel as secure as we could, bringing her up into the creek, and hauling her up to the shore.

When the settled season began to come in, the thought of my design returned with the fair weather, and the first thing I did was to lay up a certain quantity of provision, being the store for the voyage in a week or a fortnight's time. I was busy one morning upon something of this kind, when I called to Friday, and bade him go to the sea-shore and see if he could find a turtle, or tortoise, a thing which we generally got once a week, for the sake of the eggs as well as the flesh. Friday had not been long gone when he came running back, and flew over my outward wall, or fence, like one that felt not the ground or the steps he set his feet on; and before I had time to speak to him, he cried out to me, "Oh, master! Oh, master! Oh, sorrow! Oh, bad!" "What's the matter,

Friday?" said I. "Oh, yonder there," says he, "one, two, three canoe! one, two, three!" By this way of speaking, I concluded there were six; but, on inquiry, I found there were but three. "Well, Friday," said I. "do not be frightened." I heartened him up as well as I, could, for nothing ran in his head but that they were come to look for him, and would cut him in pieces and eat him. I told him I was in as much danger as he and that they would eat me as well as him. "But," said I, "Friday, we must resolve to fight them: can you fight, Friday?" "Me shoot," says he, "but there come many great number." "No matter for that," said I again; "our guns will fright them that we do not kill." So I asked him, whether, if I resolved to defend him, he would defend me, and stand by me, and do just as I bade him? He said, "Me die when you bid die, master." So I went and fetched a good dram of rum, and gave him; for I had been so good a husband of my rum that I had a great deal left. When he had drunk it, I made him take the two fowling-pieces which we always carried, and load them with large swan-shot as big as small pistol-bullets; then I took four muskets, and loaded them with two slugs and five small bullets each; and my two pistols I loaded with a brace of bullets each—I hung my great sword, as usual, naked by my side, and gave Friday his hatchet.

When I had thus prepared myself, I took my perspective glass, and went up to the side of the hill to see what I could discover; and I found that there were one-and-twenty savages, three prisoners, and three canoes; and that their whole business seemed to be a barbarous feast, as was usual with them.

I observed also that they were landed, not where they had done when Friday made his escape, but nearer to my creek, where the shore was low, and where a thick wood came close almost down to the sea. This, with the abhorrence of the inhuman errand these wretches came about, so filled me with indignation, that I came down again to Friday, and told him I was resolved to go down to them and kill them all.

I gave Friday one pistol to stick in his girdle, and three guns upon his shoulder, and I took one pistol and the other three myself; and in this posture we marched out. I took a small bottle of rum in my pocket, and gave Friday a

large bag with more powder and bullets; and I charged him to keep close behind me, and not to stir, shoot, or do anything till I bade him; and, in the meantime, not to speak a word. In this posture I fetched a compass to my right hand of near a mile, as well to get over the creek as to get into the wood; so that I might come within shot of them before I could be discovered, which I had seen by my glass it was easy to do.

While I was making this march, my former thoughts returning, I resolved I would only go place myself near them, that I might observe their barbarous feast, and that I would act then as God should direct; but that, unless something offered that was more a call to me than yet I knew of, I would not meddle with them.

With this resolution I entered the wood, and, with all possible wariness and silence, Friday following close at my heels, I marched till I came to the skirt of the wood, on the side which was next to them. I called softly to Friday, showing him a great tree, which was just at the corner of the wood; I bade him go to the tree, and bring me word if he could see there plainly what they were doing: he did so, and came immediately back to me, and told me that they were all about the fire, eating the flesh of one of their prisoners; and that another lay bound upon the sand, a little from them, whom he said they would kill next. He told me it was not one of their nation, but one of the bearded men whom he had told me of, who came to their country in the boat. I was filled with horror at the very naming the white bearded-man, and, going to the tree, I saw plainly by my glass, a white man, who lay upon the beach of the sea, with his hands and his feet tied with flags, or things like rushes; and that he was a European, and had clothes on.

There was another tree, and a little thicket beyond it, about fifty yards nearer to them than the place where I was, which, by going a little way about, I saw I might come at undiscovered, and that then I should be within shot of them; so I withheld my passion, though I was indeed enraged to the highest degree, and going back about twenty paces, I got behind some bushes, which held all the way till I came to the other tree, and then I came to a little rising ground, which gave me a full view of them at the distance of about eighty yards.

I had now not a moment to lose; for nineteen of the dreadful wretches sat upon the ground all close huddled together, and had just sent the other two to butcher the poor Christian, and bring him, perhaps, limb by limb, to their fire; and they were stooped down to untie the bands at his feet. I turned to Friday: "Now, Friday," said I, "do exactly as you see me do; fail in nothing." So I set down one of the muskets and the fowling-piece upon the ground, and Friday did the like by his; and with the other musket I took my aim at the savages, bidding him to do the like. Then, asking him if he was ready, he said, "Yes." "Then fire at them," said I; and the same moment I fired also.

Friday took his aim so much better than I, that on the side that he shot he killed two of them, and wounded three more; and on my side, I killed one and wounded two. They were, you may be sure, in a dreadful consternation; and all of them who were not hurt, jumped up upon their feet immediately, but did not know which way to run, or which way to look; for they knew not from whence their destruction came. Friday kept his eyes close upon me, that, as I had bid him, he might observe what I did: so as soon as the first shot was made, I threw down the piece, and took up the fowling-piece, and Friday did the like; he sees me cock and present—he did the same again. "Are you ready, Friday?" said I. "Yes," says he. "Let fly, then," said I, "in the name of God;" and with that I fired again among the amazed wretches, and so did Friday, and as our pieces were now loaded with what I called swan shot, or small pistol bullets, we found only two drop; but so many were wounded, that they ran about yelling and screaming like mad creatures, miserably wounded; whereof three more fell quickly after, though not quite dead.

"Now, Friday" said I, laying down the discharged pieces, and taking up the loaded musket, "follow me," which he did with a deal of courage, upon which I rushed out of the wood, and showed myself, with Friday close at my heels. As soon as I perceived they saw me, I shouted as loud as I could, and bade Friday do so too: and running as fast as I could, which was not very fast, being loaded with arms as I was, I made directly towards the poor victim, who was lying upon the beach or shore, between

the place where they sat and the sea. The two butchers who were just going to work with him, had left him at the surprise of our first fire, and running in a terrible fright to the sea's edge, had jumped into a canoe, and three more of the rest made the same way. I turned to Friday, and bade him step forwards, and fire at them. He understood me immediately, and, running about forty yards to be near them, he shot at them, and I thought he had killed them all; for I saw them fall in a heap into the boat, though I saw two of them up again quickly, however, he killed two of them, and wounded the third, so that he lay down in the bottom of the boat, as if dead.

While my man Friday fired at them, I pulled out my knife, and cut the flags that bound the poor victim; and, loosing his hands and feet, I lifted him up, and asked him, in the Portuguese tongue, what he was? He answered, in Latin, *Christianus;* but was so weak and faint that he could scarce stand or speak. I took my bottle out of my pocket, and gave it him, making signs that he should drink, which he did, and I gave him a piece of bread, which he ate: then I asked him what countryman he was? and he said, "Espagnole;" and being a little recovered, let me know, by all the signs he could possible make, how much he was in my debt for his deliverance. "Seignor," said I, with as much Spanish as I could make up, "we will talk afterwards, but we must fight now: if you have any strength left, take this pistol and sword, and lay about you:" he took them very thankfully, and no sooner had he arms in his hands, but, as if they had put new vigour into him, he flew upon his murderers like a fury, and cut two of them in pieces. For the truth is the poor creatures were so much frightened with the noise of our pieces, that they fell down for mere amazement and fear, and had no more power to attempt their own escape, than their flesh had to resist our shot, and that was the case of those five that Friday shot in the boat; for as three of them fell with the hurt they received, so the other two fell with the fright.

I kept my piece in my hand still, without firing, being willing to keep my charge ready, because I had given the Spaniard my pistol and sword; so I called to Friday, and bade him run up to the tree from whence we first fired, and fetch the arms which lay there, that had been dis-

charged, which he did with great swiftness; then, giving him my musket, I sat down myself to load all the rest again, and bade them come to me when they wanted. While I was loading those pieces, there happened a fierce engagement between the Spaniard and one of the savages, who made at him with one of their great wooden swords, the same weapon that was to have killed him before, if I had not prevented it; the Spaniard, who was as bold and as brave as could be imagined, though weak, had fought this Indian a good while, and had cut him two great wounds on his head; but the savage being a stout lusty fellow, closing in with him, had thrown him down, being faint, and was wringing my sword out his hand, when the Spaniard, though undermost, wisely quitting his sword, drew the pistol from his girdle, shot the savage through the body, and killed him upon the spot, before I, who was running to help, could come near him.

Friday being now left at liberty, pursued the flying wretches with no weapon in his hand but his hatchet; and with that he despatched those three, who were wounded at first, and fallen, and all the rest he could come up with. The Spaniard coming to me for a gun, I gave him one of the fowling-pieces, with which he pursued two of the savages, and wounded them both; but, as he was not able to run, they both got from him into the wood, where Friday pursued them, and killed one of them; but the other was too nimble for him; and, though he was wounded, yet he plunged into the sea, and swam with all his might off to those who were left in the canoe; which three in the canoe, with one wounded, who we knew not whether he died or no, were all that escaped our hands of one-and-twenty. The account of the rest is as follows:—

3 Killed at our shot from the tree.
2 Killed at our next shot.
2 Killed by Friday in the boat.
2 Killed by ditto, of those at first wounded.
1 Killed by ditto in the wood.
3 Killed by the Spaniard.
4 Killed, being found dropped here and there of their wounds, or killed by Friday in his chase of them.
4 Escaped in the boat, whereof one wounded, if not dead.

21 in all.

Those that were in the canoe worked hard to get out of

gunshot; and, though Friday made two or three shots at them, I did not find that he hit any of them. Friday would fain have had me take one of their canoes, and pursue them; and, indeed, I was very anxious about their escape, lest, carrying the news home to their people, they should come back, perhaps, with two or three hundred of their canoes, and devour us by mere multitudes; so I consented to pursue them by sea; and, running to one of their canoes, I jumped in, and bade Friday follow me; but, when I was in the canoe, I was surprised to find another poor creature lie there alive, bound hand and foot, as the Spaniard had been, for the slaughter, and almost dead with fear, not knowing what the matter was; for he had not been able to look up over the side of the boat.

I immediately cut the twisted rushes, which they had bound him with, and would have helped him up; but he could not stand or speak, but groaned most piteously, believing, it seems, still that he was only unbound in order to be killed.

When Friday came to him, I bade him speak to him, and tell him of his deliverance; and, pulling out my bottle, made him give the poor wretch a dram, which, with the news of his being delivered, revived him, and he sat up in the boat; but, when Friday came to hear him speak, and looked in his face, it would have moved anyone to tears to have seen how Friday kissed him, hugged him, cried, laughed, hallooed, danced, sang, then cried again, like a distracted creature. It was a good while before I could make him tell me what was the matter; but when he came a little to himself, he told me that it was his father.

It is not easy to express how it moved me, to see what filial affection had worked in this poor savage, at the sight of his father, and of his being delivered from death; nor indeed can I describe half the extravagances of his affection after this; for he went into the boat and out of the boat a great many times; he would sit down by him, and hold his father's head close to his bosom, half an hour together, then he took his arms and ankles, which were numbed and stiff with the binding, and chafed and rubbed them with his hands; and I, perceiving what the case was, gave him some rum out of my bottle to rub them with, which did them a great deal of good.

This action put an end to our pursuit of the canoe with the other savages, who were now almost out of sight, and it was happy for us that we did not pursue them, for it blew so hard within two hours after, and before they could have gone a quarter of their way, and continued blowing so hard all night, and that from the north-west, which was against them, that I could not suppose their boat could live, or that they ever reached their own coast.

Friday was so busy about his father that I could not find it in my heart to take him off for some time, but after I thought he could leave him a little, I called him to me, and he came jumping and laughing, and pleased to the highest extreme. Then I asked him if he had given his father any bread? He shook his head, and said, "None: ugly dog eat all up self." So I gave him a cake of bread out of a little pouch I carried on purpose. I also gave him a dram for himself, but he would not taste it, carrying it to his father. I had in my pocket, also, two or three bunches of my raisins, so I gave him a handful of them for his father. He had no sooner given his father these raisins, but I saw him come out of the boat, and run away as if he had been bewitched. He ran at such a rate for he was the swiftest fellow on his feet that ever I saw, that he was out of sight, as it were, in an instant; and though I called, and hallooed too, after him, it was all one: away he went, and in a quarter of an hour I saw him come back again, though not so fast as he went, and as he came nearer, I found his pace was slacker, because he had something in his hands.

When he came up to me, I found he had been quite home for an earthen jug, or pot, to bring his father some fresh water, and that he had got two more cakes, or loaves of bread. The bread he gave me, but the water he carried to his father: however, as I was very thirsty too, I took a little sup of it. This water revived his father more than all the rum or spirits I had given him, for he was just fainting from thirst.

When his father had drunk, I called him, to know if there was any water left. He said, "Yes;" and I bade him give it to the poor Spaniard, who was in as much want of it as his father; and I sent one of the cakes that Friday had brought to the Spaniard too, who was indeed very weak, and was reposing himself upon a green place, under

the shade of a tree, and whose limbs were also very stiff and much swelled with the rude bandage by which he had been tied. When I saw that upon Friday's coming to him with the water, he sat up and drank, and took the bread, and began to eat, I went to him, and gave him a handful of raisins: he looked up in my face with all the tokens of gratitude and thankfulness that could appear in any countenance; but was so weak, notwithstanding he had so exerted himself in the fight, that he could not stand upon his feet; so I bade him sit still, and caused Friday to rub his ankles, and bathe them with rum, as he had done his father's.

I observed the affectionate creature, every two minutes or less, all the while he was here, turned his head about, to see if his father was in the same place and posture as he left him sitting; and at last he found he was not to be seen: at which he started up, and, without speaking a word, flew with that swiftness to him, that one could scarce perceive his feet to touch the ground as he went; but when he came, he only found he had laid himself down to ease his limbs: so Friday came back to me presently, and I then spoke to the Spaniard to let Friday help him up, if he could, and lead him to the boat, and then he should carry him to our dwelling, where I would take care of him; but Friday, a lusty young fellow, took the Spaniard quite up on his back, and carried him away to the boat, and set him down softly upon the side or gunnel of the canoe, with his feet in the inside of it, and then lifted him quite in, and set him close to his father, and presently stepping out again, launched the boat off, and paddled it along the shore faster than I could walk, though the wind blew pretty hard too: so he brought them safe into our creek; and leaving them in the boat, runs away to fetch the other canoe. As he passed me, I spoke to him, and asked him whither he went? He told me, "Go fetch more boat;" so away he went, like the wind; and he had the other canoe in the creek almost as soon as I got to it by land; so he wafted me over, and then went to help our new guests out of the boat, which he did, but they were neither of them able to walk; so that poor Friday knew not what to do.

To remedy this, I went to work in my thought, and calling to Friday to bid them sit down on the bank while

he came to me, I soon made a kind of hand-barrow to lay them on, and Friday and I carried them up both together upon it between us: but when we got them to the outside of our wall we were at a worse loss than before; for it was impossible to get them over, and I was resolved not to break it down: so I set to work again; and Friday and I, in about two hours' time, made a very handsome tent, covered with old sails, and above that with boughs of trees, being in the space without our fence, and between that and the grove of young wood which I had planted; and here we made two beds of good rice straw, with blankets laid upon it to lie on, and another to cover them on each bed.

My island was now peopled, and I thought myself very rich in subjects. It was a merry reflection which I frequently made, how like a king I looked: first of all, the whole country was my own property, so that I had an undoubted right of dominion: secondly, my people all owed their lives to me, and were ready to lay down their lives, if there had been occasion for it, for me; it was remarkable too, I had but three subjects, and they were of three different religions. My man Friday was a Protestant, his father a Pagan and a cannibal, and the Spaniard was a Papist: however, I allowed liberty of conscience throughout my dominions; but this by the way.

As soon as I had secured my two weak rescued prisoners, and given them shelter, and a place to rest them upon, I began to think of making some provision for them. I ordered Friday to take a yearling goat out of my particular flock, to be killed: then I cut off the hind quarter, and chopping it into small pieces, I set Friday to work to boiling and stewing, and made them a very good dish, I assure you, of flesh and broth, having put some barley and rice also into the broth; and as I cooked it without doors (for I made no fire within my inner wall), so I carried it all into the new tent; and having set a table there for them, I sat down and ate my dinner also: and, as well as I could, cheered and encouraged them, Friday being my interpreter, especially to his father, and indeed to the Spaniard too; for the Spaniard spoke the language of the savages pretty well.

After we had supped, I ordered Friday to take one of the canoes, and fetch our muskets and other fire-arms,

which, for want of time, we had left upon the place of battle; and the next day I told him to bury the dead bodies of the savages, which lay open to the sun, and would presently be offensive. I also ordered him to bury the horrid remains of their barbarous feast, which I could not bear to see, if I went that way: all of which he punctually performed, effacing all appearance of the savages having been there; so that when I went again, I could scarce know where it was, otherwise than by the corner of the wood pointing to the place.

I then began to enter into a little conversation with my two new subjects; and first, I set Friday to inquire of his father what he thought of the escape of the savages in that canoe? and whether we might expect a return of them with a power too great for us to resist? His opinion was, that the boat never could live out the storm which blew that night, but must of necessity be driven south to those other shores, where its occupants were as sure to be devoured as they were to be drowned if they were cast away. What they would do if they came safe on shore, he said he knew not; but it was his opinion, that they were so dreadfully frightened by the noise and the fire, that he believed they would tell their people that the others had been killed by thunder and lightning, and not by the hand of man; and that the two which appeared, namely Friday and I, were two spirits or furies come down to destroy them, and not men with weapons. This, he said, he knew, because he heard them all cry out so in their language to one another; for it was impossible for them to conceive that a man should dart fire, and speak thunder, and kill at a distance, as we had done. And this old savage was in the right; for, as I have heard since, from other sources, the savages of that part never attempted to go over to the island afterwards. They were so terrified with the accounts given by these four men, (for it seems they did escape the sea), that they believed, whoever went to that enchanted island would be destroyed with fire from the gods.

This, however, I knew not, and therefore was under continual apprehensions for a good while, and kept always upon my guard, I and all my army; for, as there were now four of us, I would have ventured upon a hundred of them fairly in the open field at any time.

In a little time, however, no more canoes appearing, the fear of their coming wore off; and I began to take my former thoughts of a voyage to the main into consideration, being likewise assured by Friday's father, that I might depend upon good usage from their nation on his account, if I would go.

CHAPTER XVII

ROBINSON AND HIS SUBJECTS PLAN THEIR ESCAPE FROM THE ISLAND AND SUBDUE A MUTINY

I HAD a serious discourse with the Spaniard, from whom I understood that there were sixteen more of his countrymen and Portuguese, who, having been cast away, had made their escape to that side, and lived there at peace indeed with the savages, but were very sore put to it for the bare necessities of life. I asked him all the particulars of their voyage; and found that they were a Spanish ship, bound from the Rio de la Plata to the Havanna, being directed to leave their loading there, which was chiefly hides and silver, and to bring back what European goods they could meet with there; that they had five Portuguese seamen on board, whom they took out of another wreck; that five of their own men were drowned when first the ship was lost; and that these escaped through infinite dangers and hazards, and arrived almost starved on the cannibal coast, where they expected to have been devoured every moment.

He told me they had some arms with them, but they were perfectly useless; for that they had neither powder nor ball, the washing of the sea having spoiled all their powder, but a little which they used at their first landing to provide themselves with food.

I asked him what he thought would become of them there; and if they had formed no design of making any escape? He said they had had many consultations about it; but that, having neither vessel nor tools to build one nor provisions of any kind, their counsels always ended in despair.

I asked him how he thought they would receive a proposal from me, which might tend towards an escape; and

whether, if they were all here, it might not be done? I told him with freedom, I feared mostly their treachery and ill usage of me, if I put my life in their hands; for that gratitude was no inherent virtue in the nature of man, and if I were to place weapons in their hands, I might be ill-used for my kindness to them, and make my case worse than it was before.

He answered, with a great deal of candour and ingenuity, that their condition was so miserable that he believed they would abhor the thought of using any man unkindly that should contribute to their deliverance; and that if I pleased, he would go to them with the old man, and discourse with them about it, and return again, bringing me their answer: that he would make conditions with them, upon their solemn oath, that they would be absolutely under my leading, as their commander and captain; and that they should swear upon the holy Sacraments and Gospel to be true to me, and go to such Christian country as I should agree to, and no other, and that he would bring a contract from them under their hands to that effect.

After these assurances, I resolved to venture to relieve them, if possible, and to send the old savage and this Spaniard over to them to treat: but when he had got all things in readiness to go, the Spaniard himself started an objection, which had so much prudence in it on one hand, and so much sincerity on the other hand, that I could not but be very well satisfied in it; and, by his advice, put off the deliverance of his comrades for at least half a year. The case was this:—

He had been with us now about a month, during which time I had let him see in what manner I had provided, with the assistance of Providence, for my support; and he saw evidently what stock of corn and rice I had laid up: which, though more than sufficient for myself, so it was not sufficient, at least without good husbandry, for my family, now it was increased to number four: but much less would it be sufficient if his countrymen, who were, as he said, fourteen still alive, should come over; and least of all would it suffice to victual our vessel, if we should build one, for a voyage to any one of the Christian colonies of America. So he told me, he thought it would be more advisable to let him and the other two dig and

cultivate some more land, as much as I could spare seed to sow; and that we should wait another harvest, that we might have a supply of corn for his countrymen when they should come, otherwise they might think themselves delivered out of one difficulty into another.

His caution was so seasonable, and his advice so good, that I could not but be very well pleased with his proposal, as well as I was satisfied with his fidelity. So we fell to digging, all four of us, as well as our wooden tools we were furnished permitted; and, in about a month's time, by the end of which it was seed-time, we had got as much land cured and trimmed up as sufficed to sow twenty-two bushels of barley upon, and sixteen jars of rice, which was, in short, all the seed we had to spare; nor indeed did we leave ourselves barley sufficient for our own food for the six months that we had to expect our crop, that is to say, reckoning from the time we set our seed aside for sowing; for it is not to be supposed it is six months in the ground in that country.

Having now society enough, and our number being sufficient to put us out of fear of the savages, if they had come, unless their number had been very great, we went freely all over the island, wherever we found occasion; and I marked out several trees which I thought fit for our work and set Friday and his father to cutting them down; and then I caused the Spaniard, to whom I imparted my thoughts on that affair, to oversee and direct their work.

At the same time, I contrived to increase my little flock of tame goats as much as I could: and to this purpose I sought out about twenty young kids to breed up with the rest. Above all, the season for curing the grapes coming on, I caused such a prodigious quantity to be hung up in the sun, that I believe, had we been at Alicant, where the raisins are cured, we should have filled sixty or eighty barrels; and these, with our bread, were a great part of our food, and very good living too, I assure you.

It was now harvest, and our crop in good order: it was not the most plentiful increase I had seen in the island; but, however, it was enough to answer our end, for from twenty-two bushels of barley, we brought in and threshed out above two hundred and twenty bushels, and the like in proportion from the rice, which was store enough for our food to the next harvest, though all the sixteen

Spaniards had been on shore with me; or, if we had been ready for a voyage, it would very plentifully have victualled our ship, to have carried us to any part of the world, that is to say, of America. When we had thus housed corn, we fell to work to make more baskets, in which we kept it; and the Spaniard was very handy and dexterous at this part, and often blamed me that I did not make some things for defence, of this kind of work; but I saw no need of it. And now, having a full supply of food for all the guests expected, I gave the Spaniard leave to go over to the main, to see what he could do with those he left behind him there: I gave him a strict charge not to bring any man with him, who would not first swear, in the presence of himself and of the old savage, that he would no way injure, fight with, or attack the person he should find in the island, who was so kind as to send for them, in order to assist their deliverance; but that they would stand by and defend him against all such attempts; and, wherever they went, would be entirely under, and subjected to his command; and that this should be put in writing, and signed with their hands. How they were to have this done, when I knew they had neither pen nor ink, indeed, was a question which we never asked.

Under these instructions, the Spaniard and the old savage went away in one of the canoes, in which they came as prisoners to be devoured by the savages.

I gave each of them a musket with a firelock on it, and about eight charges of powder and ball, charging them not to use either of them, but upon urgent occasions.

This was a cheerful work, being the first measures used by me in view of my deliverance for now twenty-seven years and some days. I gave them provisions of bread, and of dried grapes, sufficient for themselves for many days, and sufficient for their countrymen for about eight days' time; and, wishing them a good voyage, I let them go, agreeing with them about a signal they should hang out at their return, by which I should know them again at a distance, before they came on shore.

They went away with a fair gale on the day that the moon was at full—by my account in the month of October—but as for the exact reckoning of days, after I had once lost it, I could never recover it again; nor had I kept even the number of years so punctually as to be sure that

I was right, though, as it proved when I afterwards examined my account, I had kept a true reckoning of years.

It was no less than eight days I waited for them, when a strange and unforeseen accident intervened, of which the like has not, perhaps, been heard of in history. I was fast asleep one morning, when my man Friday came running in to me, and called aloud, "Master, master, they are come, they are come!"

I jumped up and went out as soon as I could get my clothes on, through my little grove. Regardless of danger, I went without my arms, which it was not my custom to do; but I was surprised, when, turning my eyes to the sea, I presently saw a boat at about a league and a half's distance, standing in for shore, with a shoulder-of-mutton sail, as they call it, and the wind blowing pretty fair to bring them in. Also I observed presently, that they did not come from that side which the shore lay on, but from the southermost end of the island. Upon this I called Friday in, and bade him lie close, for these were not the people we looked for, and that we did not know yet whether they were friends or enemies.

I went in to fetch my perspective glass, and, having taken the ladder out, I climbed up to the top of the hill, as I used to do when I was apprehensive of anything, to take my view the plainer without being discovered.

I had scarce set my foot on the hill, when my eye plainly discovered a ship lying at an anchor, at about two leagues and a half's distance from me, south-south-east, but not above a league and a half from the shore. By my observation it appeared plainly to be an English ship, and the boat appeared to be an English long-boat.

I cannot express the confusion I was in, though the joy of seeing a ship, and one which I had reason to believe was manned by my own countrymen, and consequently friends, was such as I cannot describe; but yet I had some secret doubts about me, bidding me keep upon my guard. In the first place, it occurred to me to consider what business an English ship could have in that part of the world; since it was not the way to or from any part of the world where the English had any traffic, and I knew there had been no storms to drive them in there, as in distress; that if they were English really, it was most

probable that they were here upon no good design; so that I had better continue as I was, than fall into the hands of thieves and murderers.

Let no man despise the secret hints and notices of danger which sometimes are given him, when he may think there is no possibility of its being real; for, had I not been made cautious by this secret admonition I had been undone inevitably, and in a far worse condition than before, as you will see presently.

I had not kept myself long in this posture, when I saw the boat draw near the shore, as if they looked for a creek to thrust in at for the convenience of landing; however, as they did not come quite far enough, they did not see the little inlet where I formerly landed my rafts, but ran their boat on shore upon the beach, at about half a mile from me, which was very happy for me; for otherwise they would have landed just, as I may say, at my door, and would have soon beaten me out of my castle, and, perhaps, have plundered me of all I had.

When they were on shore, I was fully satisfied they were Englishmen, at least most of them. There were, in all, eleven men, whereof three of them I found were unarmed, and (as I thought) bound, and when the first four or five of them had jumped on shore, they took those three out of the boat as prisoners. One of the three I could perceive using the most passionate gestures of entreaty and despair, the other two lifted up their hands sometimes, and appeared concerned indeed, but not to such a degree as the first.

I was perfectly confounded at the sight, and knew not what the meaning of it should be; Friday called out to me, in English, as well as he could, "Oh, master! you see English mans eat prisoners as well as savage mans." "No, no," said I, "Friday; I am afraid they will murder them indeed; but you may be sure they will not eat them."

All this while I had no thought of what the matter really was, but stood trembling with the horror, expecting every moment when the three prisoners should be killed; nay, once I saw one of the villains lift up his arm with a great cutlass to strike one of the poor men; and I expected to see him fall every moment, at which all the blood in my body seemed to run chill in my veins.

I wished heartily now for our Spaniard, and the savage

that had gone with him; or that I had any way to have come undiscovered within shot of them, that I might have rescued the three men; for I saw they had no fire-arms among them; but it fell out another way.

After I had observed the outrageous usage of the three men by the insolent seamen, I observed the fellows run scattering about the land, as if they wanted to see the country. I observed also, that the three other men had liberty to go where they pleased; but that they sat down all three upon the ground very pensive, and looked like men in despair.

This put me in mind of the first time when I came on shore; how wildly I looked round me, what dreadful apprehensions I had, and how I lodged in the tree all night for fear of being devoured by wild beasts.

As I knew nothing that night of the supply I was to receive by the providential driving of the ship nearer the land by the storms and tides, so these three poor desolate men knew nothing how certain of deliverance they were, and how really they were in a condition of safety, at the same time they thought themselves lost.

So little do we see before us in the world, and so much reason have we to depend cheerfully upon the great Maker of the world, that in the worst circumstances they have always something to be thankful for, and often are even brought to their deliverance by the means by which they seem to be brought to their destruction.

It was just at high water when these people came on shore, and while they rambled about to see what kind of place they were in, they had carelessly stayed till the tide was spent, and the water was ebbed considerably away, leaving their boat aground.

They had left two men in the boat, who, as I found afterwards, having drunk a little too much brandy, fell asleep; however, one of them wakened, and finding the boat too fast aground for him to stir it, hallooed for the rest who were straggling about, upon which they all soon came to the boat; but it was past all their strength to launch her, the boat being very heavy, and the shore on that side being almost like a quicksand.

In this condition, like true seamen, who are, perhaps, the least of all mankind given to forethought, they gave it over, and away they strolled about the country again;

and I heard one of them say aloud to another (calling them off from the boat), "Why, let her alone, Jack, can't ye? she'll float next tide." By which I was fully confirmed in the main inquiry, of what countrymen they were.

All this while I kept myself close, not once daring to stir out of my castle, any farther than to my place of observation, near the top of the hill; and very glad I was to think how well it was fortified. I knew it was no less than ten hours before the boat could be on float again, and by that time it would be dark, and I might be more at liberty to see their motions, and to hear their discourse, if they had any.

In the meantime, I fitted myself up for a battle, as before, though with more caution, knowing I had to do with another kind of enemy than I had at first; I ordered Friday also, whom I had made an excellent marksman with his gun, to load himself with arms—I took myself two fowling-pieces and I gave him three muskets. My figure, indeed, was very fierce: I had my formidable goat-skin coat on, with the great cap I mentioned, a naked sword, two pistols in my belt, and a gun upon each shoulder.

It was my design, as I said above, not to have made any attempt till it was dark; but about two o'clock, being the heat of the day, I found that they were all gone straggling into the woods, and, as I thought, were all laid down to sleep. The three poor distressed men, too anxious for their condition to get any sleep, were, however, set down under the shelter of a great tree, at about a quarter of a mile from me, and, as I thought, out of sight of any of the rest.

Upon this I resolved to discover myself to them, and learn something of their condition. Immediately I set out, my man Friday at a good distance behind me, as formidable for his arms as I, but not making quite so spectre-like a figure as I did.

I came as near them undiscovered as I could, and then, before any of them saw me, I called aloud to them, in Spanish, "What are ye, gentlemen?"

They started up at the noise, but were ten times more confounded when they saw my uncouth figure. They made no answer at all, but were just going to fly from me when I spoke to them in English: "Gentlemen," said I,

" do not be surprised at me; perhaps you may have a friend near you, when you did not expect it." " He must be sent directly from Heaven, then," said one of them, very gravely, to me, pulling off his hat at the same time, " for our condition is past the help of man." " All help is from Heaven, sir!" said I; " but can you put a stranger in the way how to help you, for you seem to me to be in great distress? I saw you when you landed; and when you seemed to make application to the brutes that came with you, I saw one of them lift up his sword to kill you."

The poor man, with tears running down his face, and trembling, looking like one astonished, returned, " Am I talking to a real man or an angel?" " Be in no fear about that, sir," said I: " if God had sent an angel to relieve you, he would have come better clothed, and armed after another manner than you see me. Pray, lay aside your fears: I am an Englishman, and disposed to assist you; I have one servant only, but we have arms and ammunition; tell us freely, can we serve you? What is your case?"

" Our case," said he, " sir, is too long to tell you while our murderers are so near; but, in short, sir, I was commander of that ship; my men having mutinied against me, they have been hardly prevailed on not to murder me, and at last they have set me on shore in this desolate place, with those two men with me, one my mate, the other a passenger, where we expected to perish, believing the place to be uninhabited, and know not yet what to think of it."

" Where are those brutes, your enemies?" said I; " do you know where they are gone?" " There they are, sir," said he, pointing to a thicket of trees; " my heart trembles for fear they have seen us, and heard you speak; if they have, they will certainly murder us all."

" Have they any fire-arms?" said I. He answered, " They had only two pieces, one of which they left in the boat." " Well, then," said I, " leave the rest to me: I see they are asleep; it is an easy thing to kill them all, but shall we rather take them prisoners?" He told me there were two desperate villains among them, that it was scarce safe to show any mercy to; but if they were secured, he believed all the rest would return to their duty: I asked him which they were? He told me he

could not at that distance descry them; but he would obey my orders in anything I would direct. "Well," said I, "let us retreat out of their view or hearing, lest they awake, and we will resolve further;" so they willingly went back with me, till the woods covered us from them.

"Look you, sir," said I, "if I venture upon your deliverance, are you willing to make two conditions with me?" He anticipated my proposals by telling me, that both he and the ship, if recovered, should be wholly commanded by me in everything; and if the ship was not recovered, he would live and die with me, and the two other men said the same.

"Well," said I, "my conditions are but two: First, that while you stay on this island with me, you will not pretend to any authority here; and if I put arms into your hands, you will upon all occasions give them up to me, and in the meantime to be governed by orders. Second, that if the ship is recovered, you will carry me and my man to England, passage free."

He gave me all the assurance that man could devise, that he would comply with these most reasonable demands; and besides would owe his life to me, and acknowledge it upon all occasions as long as he lived.

"Well, then," said I, "here are three muskets for you, with powder and ball; tell me next what you think is proper to be done." He showed all the testimony of his gratitude that he was able, but offered to be wholly guided by me; I told him I thought it was hard venturing anything, but the best method I could think of was, to fire upon them at once as they lay; and if any were not killed at the first volley, and offered to submit, we might save them, and so put it wholly upon God's providence to direct the shot.

He said, very modestly, that he was loth to kill them if he could help it; but that those two were incorrigible villains, and had been the authors of all the mutiny in the ship, and, if they escaped, we should be undone still; for they would go on board, and bring the whole ship's company and destroy us all. "Well, then," said I, "necessity legitimizes my advice; for it is the only way to save our lives." However, seeing him still cautious of shedding blood, I told him that they should go themselves, and manage as they found convenient.

In the middle of this discourse, we heard some of them awake, and soon after we saw two of them on their feet. I asked him if either of them were the men whom he had said were the heads of the mutiny? He said "No." "Well, then," said I, "you may let them escape, and Providence seems to have wakened them on purpose to save themselves. Now," said I, "if the rest escape you, it is your fault."

Animated by this, he took the musket I had given him in his hand, and pistol in his belt, and his two comrades with him, with each man a piece in his hand. The two men who were with him, going first, made some noise, at which one of the seamen, who was awake, turned about, and, seeing them coming, cried out to the rest; but it was too late then, for the moment he cried out the two men fired, the captain wisely reserving his own piece. They had so well aimed their shot at the men they knew, that one of them was killed on the spot and the other very much wounded. He started up to his feet and called eagerly for help to the other: but the captain, stepping up to him, told him it was too late to cry for help, he should call upon God to forgive his villainy; and with that word knocked him down with the stock of his musket, so that he never spoke more: there were three more in the company, and one of them was also slightly wounded. By this time I was come; and when they saw their danger, and it was in vain to resist, they begged for mercy. The captain told them he would spare their lives, if they would swear to be faithful to him in recovering the ship, and afterwards in carrying her back to Jamaica, from whence they came. They gave him all the protestations of their sincerity that could be desired, and he was willing to believe them, and spare their lives, which I was not against; only I obliged him to keep them bound, hand and foot, while they were upon the island.

While this was doing, I sent Friday with the captain's mate to the boat with orders to secure her, and bring away the oars and sail, which they did; and by-and-by, three straggling men, that were (happily for them) parted from the rest, came back upon hearing the guns fired; and seeing their captain, who before was their prisoner, now their conqueror, they submitted to be bound also—and so our victory was complete.

It now remained that the captain and I should inquire

into one another's circumstances. I began first, and told him my whole history, which he heard with an attention even to amazement, particularly at the wonderful manner of my being furnished with provisions and ammunition; and, indeed, as my whole story is a collection of wonders, it affected him deeply; but when he reflected from thence upon himself, and how I seemed to have been preserved there on purpose to save his life, the tears ran down his face, and he could not speak a word more.

After this communication was at an end, I brought him and his two men into my apartment, leading them in just where I came out, namely, at the top of the house. There I refreshed them with such provisions as I had, and showed them all the contrivances I had made during my long, long inhabiting of the place.

The captain admired my fortification; and how perfectly I had concealed my retreat with a grove of trees, which was become so thick that it was impassable in any part of it, but at that one side where I had reserved my little winding passage into it: this I told him was my castle and my residence; but that I had a seat in the country, as most princes have, whither I could retreat upon occasion, and I would show him that too, another time; but at present our business was to consider how to recover the ship. He agreed with me as to that, but told me he was perfectly at a loss what measures to take; for that there were still six-and-twenty hands on board, who, having entered into a cursed conspiracy, by which they had all forfeited their lives to the law, would be hardened in it now by desperation; and would carry it on, knowing that, if they were reduced, they should be brought to the gallows as soon as they came to England, or to any of the English colonies; and that therefore there would be no attacking them with so small a number as we were.

I mused for some time upon what he had said, and found it was a very rational conclusion, and that therefore something was to be resolved on very speedily, as well to draw the men on board into some snare for their surprise, as to prevent their landing upon us, and destroying us. Upon this, it presently occurred to me, that in a little while the ship's crew, wondering what was become of their comrades, and of the boat, would certainly come on shore in their other boat to seek for them; and that then perhaps they

might come armed, and be too strong for us : this he allowed was rational.

Upon this I told him, the first thing we had to do was to stave the boat, which lay upon the beach, so that they might not carry her off ; and taking everything out of her, leave her so far useless as not to be fit to swim ; accordingly, we went on board, took the arms which were left out of her, and whatever else we found there, which was a bottle of brandy and another of rum, a few biscuit cakes, a horn of powder, and a great lump of sugar in a piece of canvas, all of which were very welcome to me, especially the brandy and sugar, of which I had had none left for many years.

When we had carried all these things on shore, we knocked a great hole in her bottom, so that if they had come strong enough to master us, yet they could not carry off the boat. Indeed, it was not so much in my thoughts, that we could recover the ship as that if they went away without the boat, I thought we could make her fit again to carry us away to the Leeward Islands, and call upon our friends the Spaniards on our way, for I had them still in my thoughts.

CHAPTER XVIII

ROBINSON HELPS THE CAPTAIN TO RECAPTURE HIS SHIP AND SAILS WITH HIM FOR ENGLAND

WHILE we were thus preparing our designs, we heard the ship fire a gun, and saw her wave her ensign as a signal for the boat to come on board ; but no boat stirred ; and they fired several times, making other signals for the boat.

At last, when all their signals and firings proved fruitless, and they found the boat did not stir, we saw them (by the help of our glasses), hoist another boat out, and row towards the shore ; and we found, as they approached, that there were no less than ten men in her, and that they had fire-arms with them.

As the ship lay almost two leagues from the shore, we had a full view of them as they came, and a plain sight of the men, even of their faces ; because the tide having set them a little to the east of the other boat, they rowed up under shore, to come to the same place where the other had landed, and where the boat lay.

The captain knew the characters of all the men in the boat: of whom he said that there were three very honest fellows, who, he was sure, were led into this conspiracy by the rest, being overpowered, but that the boatswain, who, it seems, was the chief officer among them, and all the rest, were as outrageous as any of the ship's crew; and were, no doubt, made desperate in their new enterprise; and terribly apprehensive he was that they would be too powerful for us.

"And where, sir," said I, "is your belief of my being preserved here on purpose to serve your life, which elevated you a little while ago?" "What's that?" says he. "Why, depend upon it, every man of them that comes ashore are our own, and shall die, or live as they behave to us."

As I spoke this with a raised voice and cheerful countenance, I found it greatly encouraged him; so we set vigorously to our business. We had, upon the first appearance of the boat's coming from the ship, considered separating our prisoners, and had indeed secured them effectually.

Two of them, of whom the captain was less assured than ordinary, I sent with Friday, and one of the three delivered men to my cave, where they were remote enough, and out of danger of being heard or discovered, or of finding their way out of the woods, if they could have delivered themselves: here they left them bound, but gave them provisions, and promised them, if they continued there quietly, to give them their liberty in a day or two: but that if they attempted their escape, they should be put to death without mercy. They promised faithfully to bear their confinement with patience, and were very thankful that they had such good usage as to have provisions and a light left them; for Friday gave them candles, and they did not know but that he stood sentinel over them at the entrance.

The other prisoners had better usage: two of them were kept pinioned indeed, because the captain was not free to trust them; but the other two were taken into my service upon their captain's recommendation, and upon their solemnly engaging to live and die with us; so, with them and the three honest men, we were seven men well armed; and I made no doubt we should be able to deal well enough with the ten that were a-coming, considering that the

captain had said there were three or four honest men amongst them also.

As soon as they got to the place where their other boat lay, they ran their boat into the beach, and came all on shore, hauling the boat up after them, which I was glad to see; for I was afraid they would rather have left the boat at an anchor, some distance from the shore, with some hands in her to guard her, and so we should not be able to seize the boat.

Being on shore, the first thing they all did, was to run to the other boat; and it was easy to see that they were greatly surprised to find her stripped of all that was in her, and a great hole in her bottom.

Upon this, they set up two or three great shouts, hallooing with all their might to try if they could make their companions hear; but all was to no purpose: then they came all close in a ring, and fired a volley of their small-arms, which, indeed, we heard, and the echoes made the woods ring; but it was all one: those in the cave, we were sure, could not hear; and those in our keeping, though they heard it well enough, yet durst give no answer to them.

They were so astonished at this, that, as they told us afterwards, they resolved to go on board again to their ship, and let them know there that the men were all murdered, and the long-boat staved; accordingly, they immediately launched the boat again, and got all of them on board.

The captain was confounded at this, believing they would go on board the ship again, and set sail, giving their comrades up for lost, and so he should still lose the ship, which he was in hopes we should have recovered; but he was quickly as much frightened the other way.

They had not been long put off with the boat, but we perceived them all coming on shore again; but, with this new measure in their conduct, which, it seems, they consulted together upon, namely, to leave three men in the boat, and the rest to go on shore, and go up into the country to look for their fellows.

This was a great disappointment to us; for now we were at a loss what to do; for our seizing those seven men on shore would be no advantage to us if we let the boat escape, because they would then row away to the ship; and then the rest of them would be sure to weigh and set sail, and so our recovering the ship would be lost.

However, we had no remedy but to wait and see what the issue of things might present. The seven men came on shore, and the three men who remained in the boat put her off to a good distance from the shore, and came to an anchor to wait for them ; so that it was impossible for us to come at them in the boat.

Those that came on shore kept close together, marching towards the top of the little hill, under which my habitation lay ; and we could see them plainly, though they could not perceive us ; we would have been very glad if they had come nearer to us, so that me might have fired at them ; or that they would have gone farther off, that we might have come aboard.

But when they were come to the brow of the hill, where they could see a great way into the valley and woods, which lay towards the north-east part, where the island lay lowest, they shouted and hallooed till they were weary ; and not caring, it seems, to venture far from the shore, nor from one another, they sat down together under a tree to consider of it. Had they thought fit to have gone to sleep there, as the other party of them had done, they had done the job for us ; but they were too full of apprehensions of danger to venture to sleep, though they could not tell what danger they had to fear.

The captain made a proposal to me upon this consultation of theirs, that, perhaps, they would all fire a volley again to endeavour to make their fellows hear, and that we should all sally upon them just at the juncture when their pieces were discharged, whereupon they would certainly yield, and we should have them without bloodshed. I liked the proposal, but this event did not happen, and we lay still a long time very irresolute as to what course to take. At length we saw them all start up, and march down toward the sea : it seems they had such dreadful apprehensions upon them of the danger of the place, that they resolved to go on board the ship again, give their companions over for lost, and so go on with their intended voyage with the ship.

As soon as I perceived them go towards the shore, I imagined it to be, as it really was, that they had given over their search, and the captain was ready to sink at the apprehensions of it ; but I presently thought of a stratagem to bring them back again, which answered my purpose.

I ordered Friday and the captain's mate to go over the little creek westward, and as soon as they came to a little rising ground, at about half a mile's distance, I bade them halloo as loud as they could, and wait till they found the seamen heard them ; that as soon as they heard the seamen answer them, they should return it, and then, keeping out of sight, take a round, always answering, when the others hallooed, to draw them as far into the island, and among the woods, as possible, and then wheel about again to me, by such ways as I directed.

They were just going into the boat, when Friday and the mate hallooed ; and they heard them, and answering, ran along the shore westward, towards the voice they heard, when they were presently stopped by the creek, where the water being up, they could not get over, and called for the boat to come up and set them over, as indeed, I expected.

When they had set themselves over, I observed that the boat being gone up a good way into the creek, and, as it were, in a harbour within the land, they took one of the three men out of her to go along with them, and left only two in the boat, having fastened her to the stump of a little tree on the shore.

This was what I wished for, and immediately leaving Friday and the captain's mate to their business, I took the rest with me, and crossing the creek out of their sight, we surprised the two men before they were aware, one of them lying on shore, and the other being in the boat. The fellow on shore was between sleeping and waking, and, going to start up when the captain, who was foremost, ran in upon him and knocked him down, and then called out to him in the boat to yield, or he was a dead man.

There needed very few arguments to persuade a single man to yield, when he saw five men upon him, and his comrade knocked down : besides, this was, it seems, one of the three who were not so hearty in the mutiny as the rest of the crew, and therefore was easily persuaded not only to yield, but afterwards to join very sincerely with us.

In the meantime, Friday and the captain's mate so well managed their business with the rest, that they drew them by hallooing and answering, from one hill to another, and from one wood to another, till they not only heartily tired them, but left them where they were very sure they could not reach back to the boat before it was dark ; and

indeed, they were heartily tired themselves also by the time they came back to us.

We had nothing now to do but to watch for them in the dark, and to fall upon them, so as to make sure work with them.

It was several hours after Friday came back to me before they came back to their boat—and we could hear the foremost of them, long before they came quite up, calling to those behind to come along—and could also hear them answer, and complain how lame and tired they were, and not being able to come any faster, which was very welcome news to us.

At length they came up to the boat; but it is impossible to express their confusion when they found the boat fast aground in the creek, the tide ebbed out, and their two men gone: we could hear them call to one another in a most lamentable manner, telling one another they had got into an enchanted island; that there were devils in it, and they should be all carried away and devoured.

My men would have had me give them leave to fall upon them at once in the dark; but I resolved to wait to see if they did not separate; and therefore, to make sure of them, I drew my ambuscade nearer, ordering Friday and the captain to creep upon their hands and feet as close to the ground as they could, that they might not be discovered, and get as near them as possible before they offered to fire.

They had not been long in that posture, before the boatswain, who was the principal ringleader of the mutiny, and had now shown himself the most dejected and dispirited of all, came walking towards them with two more of the crew; the captain was so eager, at having the principal rogue so much in his power, that he could hardly have patience to let him come so near as to be sure of him; but when they came nearer, the captain and Friday, starting up on their feet, let fly at them.

The boatswain was killed upon the spot; the next man was shot in the body, and fell just by him, though he did not die till an hour or two after; and the third ran for it.

At the noise of the fire, I immediately advanced with my whole army, which was now eight men; namely, myself, generalissimo; Friday, my lieutenant-general; the captain and his two men, and the three prisoners of war, whom we had trusted with arms.

We came upon them indeed in the dark, so that they could not see our number; and I made the man they had left in the boat, who was now one of us, call them by name, to try if I could bring them to a parley, and reduce them to terms, which fell out just as we desired; for indeed it was easy to think, as their condition then was, that they would be very willing to capitulate; so he calls out as loud as he could to one of them, "Tom Smith! Tom Smith!" Tom Smith answered immediately, "Who's that? Robinson?" For it seems he knew the voice. The other answered, "Ay, ay; for God's sake, Tom Smith, throw down your arms, and yield, or you are all dead men this moment."

'Who must we yield to? where are they?" says Smith again. "Here they are," says he; "here is our captain and fifty men with him, have been hunting you this two hours; the boatswain is killed, Will Fry is wounded and I am a prisoner; and if you do not yield you are all lost."

"Will they give us quarter, then?" says Tom Smith, "and we will yield." "I'll go and ask, if you promise to yield," says Robinson. So he asked the captain, and the captain himself then calls out, "You, Smith, you know my voice; if you lay down your arms immediately and submit, you shall have your lives, all but Will Atkins."

Upon this Will Atkins cried out, "For God's sake, captain, give me quarter! What have I done? They have all been as bad as I," which, by the way, was not true; for it seems this Will Atkins was the first man that laid hold of the captain when they first mutinied, and used him barbarously, in tying his hands and giving him injurious language. However, the captain told him he must lay down his arms at discretion, and trust to the governor's mercy, by which he meant me; for they all called me governor.

They all laid down their arms, and begged their lives; and I sent the man that had parleyed with them, and two more, who bound them all; and then my great army of fifty men, which, particularly with those three, were in all but eight, came up and seized upon them all, and upon their boat; only that I kept myself and one more out of sight, for reasons of state.

Our next work was to repair the boat, and to think of

seizing the ship; and as for the captain, now he had leisure to parley with them, he expostulated with them upon the villainy of their practices with him, and at length, upon the further wickedness of their design; and how certainly it must bring them to misery and distress in the end, and perhaps to the gallows.

They all appeared very penitent, and begged hard for their lives: though as for that, he told them they were none of his prisoners, but the commander's of the island; that they thought they had set him on shore in a barren uninhabited island, but it had pleased God so to direct them, that the island was inhabited, and that the governor was an Englishman; that he might hang them all there, if he pleased; but as he had given them all quarter, he supposed he would send them to England, to be dealt with there as justice required, except Atkins, whom he was commanded by the governor to advise to prepare for death; for that he would be hanged in the morning.

Though this was all fiction of his own, yet it had its desired effect. Atkins fell upon his knees to beg the captain to intercede with the governor for his life; and all the rest begged of him, for God's sake, that they might not be sent to England.

It now occurred to me, that the time of our deliverance was come, and that it would be a most easy thing to bring these fellows in to be hearty in getting possession of the ship; so I retired in the dark from them, that they might not see what kind of a governor they had, and called the captain to me; when I called as at a good distance, one of the men was ordered to speak again, and say to the captain: "Captain, the commander calls for you"; and presently the captain replied, "Tell his excellency I am just a-coming." This completely deceived them; and they all believed that the commander was just by with his fifty men.

Upon the captain's coming to me, I told him my project for seizing the ship, which he liked wonderfully well, and resolved to put it in execution the next morning.

But in order to execute it with more art, and to be secure of success, I told him we must divide the prisoners, and that he should go and take Atkins, and two more of the worst of them, and send them pinioned to the cave where the others lay; this was committed to Friday, and the two men who came on shore with the captain.

They conveyed them to the cave, as to a prison; and it was indeed a dismal place, especially to men in their condition.

The others I ordered to my bower, as I called it, of which I have given a full description; and, as it was fenced in, and they pinioned, the place was secure enough, considering that they were upon their behaviour.

To these in the morning I sent the captain, who was to enter into a parley with them: in a word, to try them, and tell me, whether he thought they might be trusted or no, to go on board, and surprise the ship. He talked to them of the injury done him, of the condition they were brought to; and that though the governor had given them quarter for their lives, as to the present action, yet that if they were sent to England, they would be all hanged in chains, to be sure; but that if they would join in such an attempt as to recover the ship, he would have the governor's engagement for their pardon.

Any one may guess how readily such a proposal would be accepted by men in their condition: they fell down on their knees to the captain, and promised, with the deepest imprecations, that they would be faithful to him and would go with him all over the world.

"Well," says the captain, "I must go and tell the governor what you say, and see what I can do to bring him to consent to it." So he brought me an account of the temper he found them in; and that he verily believed they would be faithful.

However, that we might be very secure, I told him he should go back again, and choose out five of them, and tell them, that they should see that they did not want men; but he would take out those five to be his assistants, and that the governor would keep the other two, and the three that were sent prisoners to the castle (my cave), as hostages for the fidelity of those five; and that if they proved unfaithful in the execution, the five hostages should be hanged in chains alive upon the shore.

This looked severe, and convinced them that the governor was in earnest: however, they had no way left but to accept it; and it was now the business of the prisoners, as much as of the captain, to persuade the other five to do their duty.

Our strength was now thus ordered for the expedition:— 1. The captain, his mate, and passenger. 2. Then the two

prisoners of the first gang, to whom, having their characters from the captain, I had given their liberty, and trusted them with arms. 3. The other two whom I kept till now in my bower pinioned, but upon the captain's motion, had now been released. 4. These five released at last; so that they were twelve in all, besides five prisoners in the cave.

The captain told the two hostages that I was the person the governor had ordered to look after them, so I now appeared as another person, and spoke of the governor, the garrison, the castle, and the like, upon all occasions.

The captain now had no difficulty before him, but to furnish his two boats, stop the breach of one, and man them: and he contrived their business very well, for they came up to the ship about midnight. As soon as they came within call of the ship, he made Robinson hail them, and tell them he had brought off the men and the boat, but that it was a long time before they had found them, and the like, holding them in a chat till they came to the ship's side; when the captain and the mate, entering first with their arms, immediately knocked down the second mate and carpenter with the butt end of their muskets. Being very faithfully seconded by their men, they secured all the rest that were upon the main and quarter decks, and began to fasten the hatches to keep those down who were below; when the other boat and their men, entering at the fore-chains, secured the forecastle of the ship, and the scuttle, which went down into the cockpit, making three men they found there prisoners.

When this was done, and all safe upon the deck, the captain ordered the mate, with three men, to break into the round-house, where the new rebel captain lay, and, having taken alarm, had got up, and, with two men and a boy, had fire-arms in their hands; and when the mate with a crow split open the door, the new captain and his men fired boldly among them, and wounded the mate with a musket-ball, which broke his arm, and wounded two more of the men, but killed nobody.

The mate, calling for help, rushed however, into the round-house, wounded as he was, and with his pistol shot the new captain through the head, upon which the rest yielded, and the ship was taken effectually.

The captain then ordered seven guns to be fired, which was the signal agreed upon with me, to give me notice of

his success; which, you may be sure, I was very glad to hear, having sat watching upon the shore for it till near two of the clock in the morning.

Having thus heard the signal plainly, I laid me down; and it having been a day of great fatigue to me, I slept very sound, till I was something surprised with the noise of a gun; and presently starting up, I heard a man call me by the name of "Governor, governor!" and presently I knew the captain's voice; when, climbing up to the top of the hill, there he stood, and pointing to the ship, he embraced me in his arms: "My dear friend and deliverer!" says he, "there's your ship, for she is all yours, and so are we, and all that belong to her." I cast my eyes to the ship, and there she rode within a little more than half a mile of the shore, for they had weighed her anchor as soon as they were masters of her, and the weather being fair, had brought her to an anchor just against the mouth of the creek; and the tide being up, the captain had brought the pinnace in near the place where I first landed my rafts, and so landed just at my door.

I was, at first ready, to sink down with surprise; for I saw my deliverance indeed visibly put into my hands, all things easy, and a large ship just ready to carry me away whither I pleased to go. At first, for some time, I was not able to answer one word; but as he had taken me in his arms, I held fast by him.

When we had talked awhile, the captain told me, he had brought me some little refreshments, such as the ship afforded, and such as the wretches who had been so long his masters had not plundered him of. Upon this he called aloud to the boat, and bade his men bring the things ashore that were for the governor; and indeed it was a present as if I had been indeed the Governor who was to dwell upon the island still, and they were to go without me.

First, he had brought me a case of bottles full of excellent cordial waters; six large bottles of Madeira wine, (the bottles held two quarts a-piece); two pounds of excellent good tobacco, twelve good pieces of the ship's beef, and six pieces of pork, with a bag of peas, and about a hundred-weight of biscuit.

He brought me also sugar, flour, lemons, and abundance of other things: but besides these, and what was a thousand times more useful to me, he brought me shirts, neckcloths,

gloves, shoes, stockings, and a very good suit of clothes of his own.

It was a very kind and agreeable present, as any one may imagine, to one in my circumstances: but never was anything in the world of that kind so awkward, and uneasy, as it was to me to wear such clothes at their first putting on.

After all these good things had been brought into my little apartment, we began to consider what was to be done with the prisoners we had; for it was a venture to take them away with us, as the captain said, he knew they were such rogues, that if he carried them away, it must be in irons, as malefactors.

Upon this, I told him, that, if he desired it, I would undertake to bring the two men he spoke of to make it their own request that he should leave them upon the island. "I should be very glad of that," says the captain, "with all my heart."

"Well," said I, "I will send for them, and talk with them for you": so I caused Friday and the two hostages to bring the five men, pinioned as they were, to the bower, and keep them there till I came.

After some time, I came thither dressed in my new habit, as governor. Being all met, and the captain with me, I caused the men to be brought before me, and I told them, I had had a full account of their villainous behaviour to the captain, and how they had run away with the ship and committed further robberies; that by my direction the ship had been seized, that she lay now in the road, and they might see by and by their new captain hanging at the yard-arm: and I wanted to know why I should not execute them as pirates taken in the fact, as by my commission they could not doubt that I had authority to do.

One of them answered in the name of the rest, that they had nothing to say but this, that when they were taken, the captain promised them their lives, and they humbly implored my mercy. I told them I knew not what mercy to show them; for I had taken passage with the captain to go to England: and, as for the captain, he could not carry them to England, other than as prisoners in irons to be tried for mutiny, the consequence of which they knew would be the gallows; so that I could not tell what was best for them, unless they had a mind to take their fate in the island; if they desired that, I did not care, as I had

some inclination to give them their lives, if they thought they could shift on shore. They seemed very thankful for it; said they would much rather venture to stay there than be carried to England to be hanged.

And I accordingly set them at liberty, and bade them retire into the woods, to the place whence they came, and I would leave them some fire-arms, some ammunition, and some directions how they should live very well, if they thought fit.

I prepared to go on board the ship, but told the captain that I would stay that night to prepare my things; and desired him to go on board in the meantime, and keep all right in the ship, and send the boat on shore the next day for me: ordering him, in the meantime, to cause the new captain, who was killed, to be hanged at the yard-arm, that these men might see him.

When the captain was gone, I sent for the men to come to my apartment, and entered seriously into discourse with them. I showed them their captain hanging at the yard-arm of the ship, and told them they had nothing less to expect.

I then told them the story of my living there, the whole history of the place, and my coming to it; showed them my fortifications, the way I made my bread, planted my corn, cured my grapes: and, in a word, all that was necessary to make them easy. I told them the story of the sixteen Spaniards that were to be expected; for whom I left a letter, and made them promise to treat the Spaniards in common with themselves.

I left them my fire-arms, namely, five muskets, three fowling-pieces, and about a barrel of powder, and I gave them a description of the way I managed the goats, with directions to milk and fatten them, to make both butter and cheese.

I gave them every part of my own story; and told them I would prevail with the captain to leave them two barrels of gunpowder more, and some garden-seed; also I gave them the bag of peas which the captain had brought me to eat, and bade them be sure to sow and increase them.

Having done all this, I left them the next day, and went on board the ship; we prepared immediately to sail, but did not weigh that night. The next morning early, two of the five men came swimming to the ship's side, and, making

a most lamentable complaint of the other three, begged to be taken into the ship for God's sake, for they should be murdered; and pleaded with the captain to take them on board, though he hanged them immediately.

Upon this the captain pretended to have no power without me; but, after some difficulty, and after their solemn promises of amendment, they were taken on board, and were, some time after, soundly whipped, after which they proved very honest and quiet fellows.

Some time after this, I went with the boat on shore, with the things promised to the men, to which the captain, at my intercession, caused their chests and clothes to be added, which they were very thankful for: I also encouraged them, by telling them, that if it lay in my way to send a vessel to take them in, I would not forget them.

When I took leave of this island, I carried on board for relics, the great goat-skin cap I had made, my umbrella, and one of my parrots: also, I forgot not to take the money I formerly mentioned, which had lain by me so long useless that it was grown tarnished, and could hardly pass for silver, till it had been rubbed and handled, and also the money I found in the wreck of the Spanish ship.

And thus I left the island the 19th day of December, as I found by the ship's account, in the year 1686, after I had been upon it eight-and-twenty years, two months, and nineteen days: being delivered from the second captivity the same day of the month that I first made my escape in the long-boat from among the Moors of Sallee.

In this vessel, after a long voyage, I arrived in England the 11th of June, in the year 1687, having been absent for thirty-five years.

FINIS